Thomas A. Edison Papers Digital Edition

Edison-Miller Family Records

Edison-Ford Winter Estates, Fort Myers, Fla.

[X104L-F] Miller, John Vincent

Edison-Miller Family Papers

Title

[X104L-F] Miller, John Vincent

Description

These documents, which cover the years 1893-1905, consist of letters from John V. Miller (1873-1940) to his parents Lewis and Mary Valinda Miller and to his sister Mina Miller Edison. Some of the letters concern visits to Edison's laboratory and home in West Orange; news about the Edison children, including the birth of Theodore in 1898; holiday celebrations; and gifts from Mina Edison. Also included are letters from 1898 referring to John's service in the Spanish-American War and the death of his younger brother, Theodore, who was fatally wounded during the Battle of San Juan Hill. In addition, there is correspondence from 1902 pertaining to mining expeditions on Edison's behalf in Sudbury, Ontario. A letter from 1905 mentions Edison's plans to visit Canada in search of cobalt. An undated letter, probably from 1911 or 1912, contains references to the health problems of Mary V. Miller and Edison's uncle, Simeon O. Edison.

Seven additional letters from John V. Miller to his mother have not been selected. The first letter, dated April 27, was written in 1893 during John's last semester at St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire. The remaining unselected letters, which cover the period December 1893-June 1894, were written during John's first year at Yale University. The letters contain numerous references to Theodore Miller, who attended Yale along with John, as well as occasional references to Mina Edison and Lewis Miller.

Three letters were added in August 2012.

URL

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Identifier

X104L-F

Alternative Title

Edison-Miller Family Papers -- Miller, John Vincent

Is Part Of

Edison-Miller Family Papers

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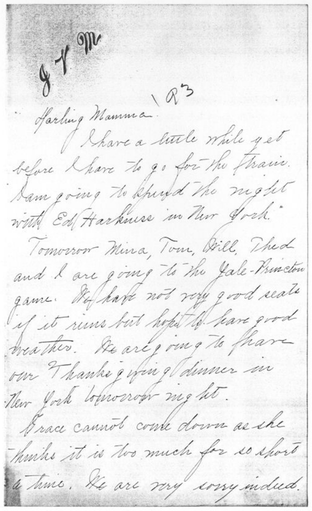

J. V. M.

93

Darling Mamma

I have a little while yet before I have to go for the train. I am going to spend the night with Ed Harkness in New York.

Tomorrow Mina, Tom, Will, Theo and I are going to the Yale-Princeton game. We have not very good seats if it rains but hope to have good weather. We are going to have our Thanksgiving dinner in New York tomorrow night.

Grace cannot come down as she thinks it is too much for so short a time. We are very sorry indeed.

Attribution

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[X104LAA], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, November 29th, 1893

Title
[X104LAA], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, November 29th, 1893

Editor's Notes
Supplied year

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Harkness, Edward Stephen
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Edison, Thomas Alva, Jr
- Miller, Lewis
- Edison, William Leslie
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1893-11-29

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAA

URL
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Timestamp
29 November 1893

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J V M

\ R3

Darling Mamma.

I have a little while yet before I have to go for the train. I am going to spend the night with Ed Harkness in New York.

Tomorrow Mira, Tom, Will, Thed and I are going to the Yale-Princeton game. We have not very good seats if it rains but hope to have good weather. We are going to have our Thanksgiving dinner in New York tomorrow night.

Grace cannot come down as she thinks it is too much for so short a time. We are very sorry indeed.

We had quite a surprise yesterday in the way of a Thanksgiving dinner. At our boarding place yesterday noon we found the gas burning, flowers on the tables, candies and a great many ornamentations. We could not make out what it was until they gave us a Menu. It was a great dinner and you may be sure we did it justice.

My foot is all right now and I am feeling pretty good. I think I shall have to take some medicine as I have had several boils etc.

We saw the Yale-Harvard game last Saturday and enjoyed it very much. We missed seeing Grace. We had not heard from her and so we did not know where to find her. It was a fine day and every thing was as good as you would want.

We were glad to hear that Len had gone out riding. He must be careful and not get sick again for Christmas.

Papa has not been here but perhaps we shall see him tomorrow with Mina. At least we hope so. I am very sorry money is in such a bad state. I hope it will soon get right.

Well Mamma Thed will tell

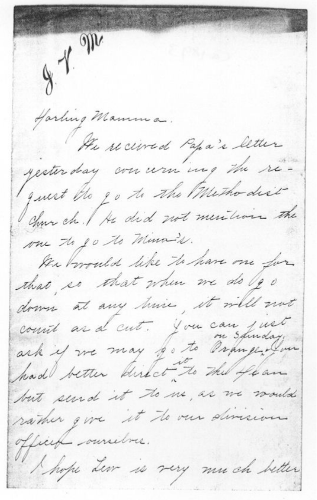
you in his Sunday letter what kind of a time we had.

Hoping that you are well and sending love to you and all, I remain,

Your loving son

John.

Nov. 29.



J. V. M.

Darling Mamma.

We received Papa's letter yesterday concerning the request to go to the Methodist Church. He did not mention the one to go to Mina's.

We would like to have one for that, so that when we do go down at any time, it will not count as a cut. You can just ask if we may go to Orange on Sunday. You had better direct it to the Dean but send it to us, as we would rather give it to our division officer ourselves.

I hope Lew is very much better

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[X104LAB], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, 1893

Title
[X104LAB], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, 1893

Editor's Notes
Supplied year

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1893-00-00

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAB

URL
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Timestamp
1 January 1893

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J. V. M.

Darling Mamma.

We received Papa's letter yesterday concerning the request to go to the Methodist church. He did not mention the one to go to Mina's.

We would like to have one for that, so that when we do go down at any time, it will not count as a cut. You can just ask if we may go to Orange on Sunday. You had better direct it to the Dean but send it to us, as we would rather give it to our division officer ourselves.

I hope Lew is very much better

and soon will be out. He must have been sporting it too much in Chicago.

A game of foot-ball was played here yesterday by the Yale varsity and Amherst. It was fairly good but Yale won with the score 52 to 0. They generally have an easy time with the smaller colleges.

We have been invited to go to a literary meeting at the house of the minister of the Methodist Church. They expect to have some prof. read some book and then have a little social. We intend to go, if nothing happens.

We had a meeting of all S.P.S fellows last night. Pres, Vice Pres, and Sec. were elected and a committee to arrange for a supper. They have a supper every year. There are a great many of our men there.

Are you coming out to Mina's Thanksgiving? We shall have quite a gathering on that day, as Mina has invited us and Grace. We shall all have to see the game in New York.

We have not received the pillows, or cards, or the pin cushion cover etc. You had better get Ed to pack them up. You must not do it though. You must take a rest.

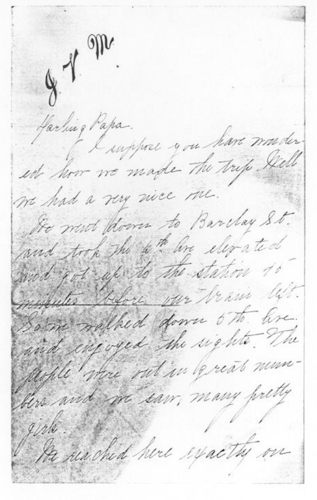
Well Mamma, I must close. Hoping you are all well and happy and sending love and kisses to you and all, I remain,

Your loving son,

John

P.S. Did Jennie receive her trunk all right?

93



J. V. M.

Darling Papa.

I suppose you have wondered how we made the trip. Well we had a very nice one.

We went down to Barclay St. and took the 6th Ave elevated and got up to the station 10 minutes before our train left. So we walked down 6th Ave. and enjoyed the sights. The people were out in great numbers and we saw many pretty girls.

We reached here exactly on

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[X104LAC], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, January 23rd, 1894

Title
[X104LAC], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, January 23rd, 1894

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Lewis

Mentioned

- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1894-01-23

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAC

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Timestamp
23 January 1894

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J. V. M.

Darling Papa.

I suppose you have wondered how we made the trip. Well we had a very nice one.

We went down to Barclay St. and took the 6th Ave elevated and got up to the station 16 minutes before our train left. So we walked down 5th Ave. and enjoyed the sights. The people were out in great numbers and we saw many pretty girls.

We reached here exactly on

time. The train made only one stop during the trip. We occupied our time studying.

We had a very nice supper at our boarding place and finally reached our rooms. The only mail was a Public Opinion, which we enjoy very much.

We found that there was no French recitation so we have taken only two cuts.

I hope Mary arrived safely and at the time she said she would. I suppose you have all been to the mine and have had a pleasant trip, at least I hope so.

Please thank Mina for us for her kindness and tell her for Thed will write her in a day or so.

We had a letter from Mamma. She says every-thing is quiet but all are well. She spoke as though she did not know that we were going to be in Orange.

It is very hard to think of any-thing to say as every day is so much like the one before it.

Thed is over working with the crew. I have just come from exercising. I am trying to straighten out my back and shoulders. Dr. Anderson has given me special exercises. I think if I can keep at it I can get much straighter.

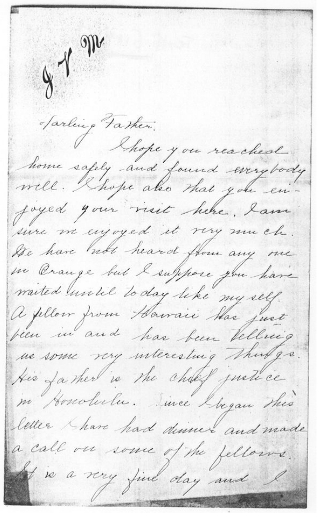
Please give my love and kisses to all, keeping oceans for yourself.

Hoping to hear from you soon I remain

Your most loving son

John.

Jan. 23, '97.


J V M

Darling Father:

I hope you reached home safely and found everybody well. I hope also that you enjoyed your visit here. I am sure we enjoyed it very much. We have not heard from any one in Orange but I suppose you have waited until to day like my self. A fellow from Hawaii has just been in and has been telling us some very interesting things. His father is the chief justice in Honolulu. Since I began this letter I have had dinner and made a call on some of the fellows. It is a very fine day and I

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[X104LAD], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, February 11th, 1894

Title
[X104LAD], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, February 11th, 1894

Editor's Notes
Supplied year

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Lewis

Mentioned

- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- MacGregor, John, Jr
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1894-02-11

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Miscellaneous technologies

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAD

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11 February 1894

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J V M

Darling Father:

I hope you reached home safely and found everybody well. I hope also that you enjoyed your visit here. I am sure we enjoyed it very much. We have not heard from any one in Orange but I suppose you have waited until today like myself. A fellow from Hawaii has just been in and has been telling us some very interesting things. His father is the chief justice in Honolulu. Since I began this letter I have had dinner and made a call on some of the fellows. It is a very fine day and I we shall go out walking later. Yesterday we received two drafts from home of $100 each. We were quite surprised. Is it all right or should we write home and tell them not to send so much? Let us know what we should do. I hope Mr. Edison's machinery is coming out all right, you must write to us and let us know about it. Please have Mina send that box of things from home. We are greatly in need of soap. Yesterday I went into the gym. and after exercising on the weights I ran. I wanted to see if I could run very far so I started out rather slowly. About the tenth lap I went a little faster and on the twentieth I spurted. Twenty laps are about equal to 1 1/3 miles. It did not tire me very much but the other day I went in and ran only seven laps and was about dead. Some days a fellow can run very well. I had an examination yesterday in Trigonometry. It was not very hard. I think I passed it, but not very much more. Tomorrow Thek has his. I have about decided to try for the Heirs. I saw John MacGregor about it and he gave me some pointers. I am not going to try unless I can get into some good "combine". Patti, the great singer, is going to be here Friday night, but I do not think we shall hear her as it is too steep, about $5 a seat. It seems funny that she should come here. She is going to sing

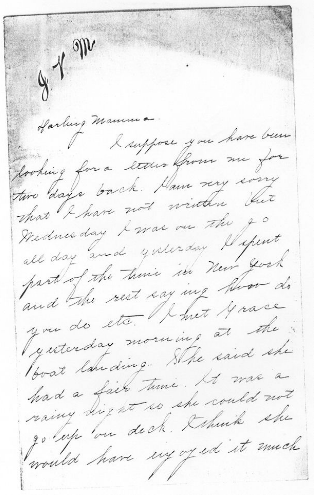
"Home Sweet Home" and "The Last Rose of Summer". Two new songs just out.

Well Father I have told about all the news. I am sorry I can not tell you more, but nothing unusual happens from day to day. Hoping you are all well and happy and trusting to hear from you soon, I remain.

Your most loving son

John.

Feb. 11.



J. V. M.

Darling Mamma

I suppose you have been looking for a letter from me for two days back. I am very sorry that I have not written but Wednesday I was on the go all day and yesterday I spent part of the time in New York and the rest saying How do you do etc. I met Grace yesterday morning at the boat landing. She said she had a fair time. It was a rainy night so she could not go up on deck. I think she would have enjoyed it much

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[X104LAE], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, March 23rd, 1894

Title
[X104LAE], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, March 23rd, 1894

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Edison, Charles
- Gladstone, William Ewart
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Gouraud, George Edward
- Miller, Lewis
- Edison, Madeleine
- Edison, Edith Clarissa
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Miller, Grace A
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1894-03-23

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Expositions, demonstrations, lectures
- Cylinder recordings

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Document ID
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Timestamp
23 March 1894

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J. V. M.

Darling Mamma.

I suppose you have been looking for a letter from me for two days back. I am very sorry that I have not written but Wednesday I was on the go all day and yesterday I spent part of the time in New York and the rest saying how do you do etc. I met Grace yesterday morning at the boat landing. She said she had a fair time. It was a rainy night so she could not go up on deck. I think she would have enjoyed it much more had it been a fine night. Jane was in New York and we took breakfast with her. We did a little shopping, buying a little basket with a chicken inside for Charles and a pair of little white slippers with China Easter Eggs for Madeleine. The two babies enjoyed them very much. Last night three or four of Mr. Edison's friends were here showing a ~~a~~ new instrument. Some time today we are going to hear some cylenders which one of the men, Col. Garou, brought from England. Mr. Gladstone's voice and that of a cardinal are among them. Tomorrow evening Mina is going to give us a little informal Easter party. We shall

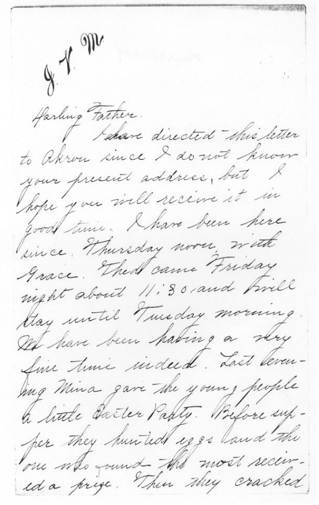
tell you in our next what it
was and how it came out. The
boys are both here and seem
to be well and in good spirits.
Edith Edison is also here. Mr.
Edison seems well except being
a little tired. Thed will not
be down until Saturday. I
do not know how long he
can get off, but two days at
the least. We were very very
glad to hear that Father was
so much better. I am sure
this trip South will make
him perfectly well. Mrs
Dyer was in to call on Mina
last evening and she told
Grace's, Mina's, Edith's and my
fortune. It was pretty good.
Mina says that she, Mrs. Dyer,

tells fortunes at most of the fairs. I hope all are well at home and that you will have a fine Easter Sunday. We think some of going in to New York and see the churches and the people. I think it will be great fun. Well Mamma, I shall write you soon again and tell you how the party came out and how everything is. Hoping you are well and sending oceans of love to you and all, I am

Your loving son,

John

Mch. 23, '94.



J. V. M.

Darling Father.

I have directed this letter to Akron since I do not know your present address, but I hope you will receive it in good time. I have been here since Thursday noon, with Grace. Theo came Friday night about 11:30, and will stay until Tuesday morning. We have been having a very fine time indeed. Last evening Mina gave the young people a little Easter Party. Before supper they hunted eggs and the one who found the most received a prize. Then they cracked

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[X104LAF], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, March 25th, 1894

Title
[X104LAF], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, March 25th, 1894

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Lewis

Mentioned

- Brooks Bros (New York)
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Miller, Grace A
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1894-03-25

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- TAE health

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
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25 March 1894

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J. V. M

Darling Father.

I have directed this letter to Akron since I do not know your present address, but I hope you will receive it in good time. I have been here since Thursday noon, with Grace. Theo came Friday night about 11:30, and will stay until Tuesday morning. We have been having a very fine time indeed. Last evening Mina gave the young people a little Easter Party. Before supper they hunted eggs and the one who found the most received a prize. Then they cracked them. That is each one chose an egg and then would hit eggs with one another. The one who broke the most eggs also received a prize. All seemed to enjoy themselves very much I know I did. Supper was quite late and the guests departed very soon after it. Herman Kountze, a friend of ours, was out. He spent last night and most all of today with us. This has been a very disagreeable day. It has rained most all the time. We did expect to visit the Churches in New York. But as we were all pretty tired and it was rainy we gave it up. Tomorrow night Mina has seats for us to see the Kendals, you know, the English actors. We went into New York yesterday and purchased some clothes at Brooks's. They are rather strict in sending bills unless people have an account. They let us take the clothes under the condition that we would have you write to them giving them authority to sell us clothes and have them charged. Now if you will please write as soon as possible and tell them it is all right, we would be very much obliged. Their address is Brook's Brothers

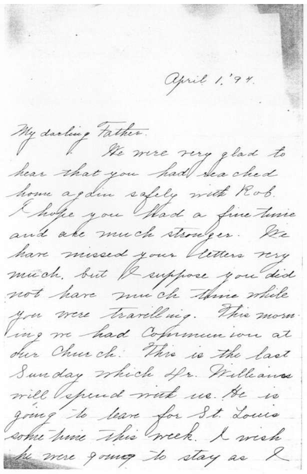
Cor. Broadway & 22nd St.,
New York City,
N.Y.

We want it arranged so we can get the clothes and then send them a check instead of carrying the money to them. I hope you are having a fine time and are very much better and also that Rob. will find a good place. Mr. Edison and Mina seem very well and happy. Mr. E. is working quite hard and seems tired out when he comes up from the laboratory. We expect to pay the bills from Brooks' as soon as they come and we shall not buy ~~them~~ clothes unless we have the money to ~~do so~~ pay for them. Hoping to hear from you very soon and sending love to you and Bob from all, I am

Your loving son

John.

March 25, '94.



April 1, '94.

My darling Father.

We were very glad to hear that you had reached home again safely with Rob. I hope you had a fine time and are much stronger. We have missed your letters very much, but I suppose you did not have much time while you were travelling. This morning we had Communion at our Church. This is the last Sunday which Mr. Williams will spend with us. He is going to leave for St. Louis some time this week. I wish he were going to stay as I

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[X104LAG], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, April 1st, 1894

Title
[X104LAG], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, April 1st, 1894

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Lewis

Mentioned

- Young Men's Christian Assn
- Brooks Bros (New York)
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Edison, Thomas Alva, Jr
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1894-04-01

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore milling and separation

Folder ID
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Document ID
X104LAG

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1 April 1894

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April 1, '94.

My darling Father.

We were very glad to hear that you had reached home again safely with Rob. I hope you had a fine time and are much stronger. We have missed your letters very much, but I suppose you did not have much time while you were travelling. This morning we had Communion at our Church. This is the last Sunday which Mr. Williams will spend with us. He is going to leave for St. Louis some time this week. I wish he were going to stay as I you doubtless remember the secretary of the Y. M. C. A., was here Friday and invited me to take dinner with him at the hotel. Theo could not come as he was at the training table. I had a very nice visit with him. He seems to be quite busy. For fear that you did not receive my letter which I sent to Georgia and as there was an important matter in it, I will repeat it. We got some clothes at Brook's Brothers in New York and we asked if we might

like him very much. He has been very kind to us. I hope the new pastor will be as nice. I think his name is Dr. Chapman, but I am not sure. Today is the first day that the Seniors have worn their caps and gowns. They will wear them every Sunday until the end of the term. They are made of black stuff and are very noticeable. We had a very nice time at Mina's and enjoyed ourselves every moment of the time. The party went off very nicely. Mr. Edison and Tom went to the mine last Wednesday. They wanted Mr. E. to be there to see the starting of some of the machinery. Mr. Gunn wait until we returned to New Haven to pay for them. They hesitated a little, since it is against their rules to make an account with minors without authority from their fathers, but finally allowed us to take the clothes and pay for them later on condition that we would write to you and have you write them saying it would be all right and giving them authority to make an account with us. We have enough money in the bank to pay for these suits and we shall be sure not to get suits unless we have the money on hand. It will be much more convenient to have it arranged in this way as otherwise we would have to take the money with us and run the risk of losing it. Now Papa if you will please write them as soon as you can we will be very much obliged. Our suits cost $28 and $26. I am also going to enclose a list of the studies from which we have to choose our studies for the next year. You will be able to understand what they are from the explanation given. For my part I would rather drop mathematics and take the other five. In taking physics we get considerable mathematics and besides physics is very practicable while the mathematics is not so much so. But you think it over and write me what you think best and I shall do as you say. You will see that they are to be in by the first of May. I hope you are all well at home and things are looking brighter. Sending love to you and all and many kisses, I am

Your loving son

John.

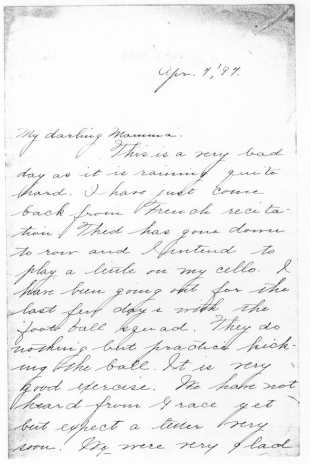
P.S. Brook's Brothers address is

Brook's Brothers

Cor. Broadway and 22nd St.,

New York City

N. Y.



Apr. 7, '97.

My darling Mamma.

This is a very bad day as it is raining quite hard. I have just come back from French recitation. Thed has gone down to row and I intend to play a little on my cello. I have been going out for the last few days with the foot ball squad. They do nothing but practice kicking the ball. It is very good exercise. We have not heard from Grace yet but expect a letter very soon. We were very glad

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[X104LAH], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 7th, 1894

Title
[X104LAH], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 7th, 1894

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Edison, Thomas Alva, Jr
- Miller, Lewis
- Edison, William Leslie
- Edison, Madeleine
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1894-04-07

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAH

URL
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Timestamp
7 April 1894

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Apr. 7, '97.

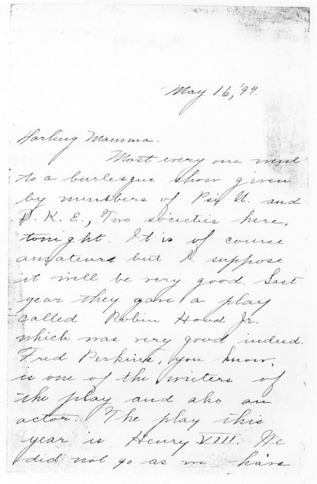
My darling Mamma:

This is a very bad day as it is raining quite hard. I have just come back from French recitation. Thed has gone down to row and I intend to play a little on my cello. I have been going out for the last few days with the foot ball squad. They do nothing but practice kicking the ball. It is very good exercise. We have not heard from Grace yet but expect a letter very soon. We were very glad to hear that Father was home and all there were happy. I hope that very soon things will clear up and we shall look forward to good times every day. I am going down to the Boy's Club this evening. I do not know whether the little fellows turn out on a wet night or not but I should think they would. We have run out of those envelopes which have the stamps printed on them and if you will have Lew send us some more we will be very thankful. I hardly know what to tell you. Every thing is about the same from day to day. Jane took the pre-limbs so you will get them

when she gets back. We had
a letter from her the other
day. She said that the fam-
ily was very small as Mr.
E. Thomas and William
and Grace had all gone.
It must be rather hard
on Mina to have so many
there at one time and at
another to be left almost alone
But she has two dear little
children to keep her com-
pany. Well I will close.
Hoping that you are all
well and happy and
sending oceans of love
and kisses to you and

all, I am
Your loving son
John.

[X104LAI], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, May 16th, 1894



May 16, '94.

Darling Mamma.

Most every one went to a burlesque show given by members of Psi U. and D.K.E., two societies here, tonight. It is of course amateurs but I suppose it will be very good. Last year they gave a play called Robin Hood Jr. which was very good indeed. Fred Perkins, you know, is one of the writers of the play and also an actor. The play this year is Henry VIII. We did not go as we have

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Title
[X104LAI], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, May 16th, 1894

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Harkness, Edward Stephen
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Grace A
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Princeton University

Date
1894-05-16

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAI

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Timestamp
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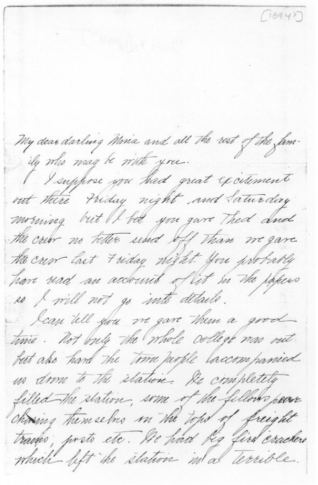
May 16, '94.

Darling Mamma.

Most every one went to a burlesque show given by members of Psi U. and D. K. E., two societies here, tonight. It is of course amateurs but I suppose it will be very good. Last year they gave a play called Robin Hood Jr. which was very good indeed. Fred Perkins, you know, is one of the writers of the play and also an actor. The play this year is Henry VIII. We did not go as we have been going to too many things already and besides there is to be a Princeton - Yale Baseball game here Saturday which we must see. Grace has written us asking us to come up and see her play which comes off a week from Saturday. Thed cannot go of course, but I think I shall go, as Grace seems very anxious to have some of us there. I wrote to Mina to find out what she is going to do. Perhaps she will go too and in that case we shall have a fine time. We received the papers and were glad but at the same time sorry to hear of Akron. You must have had a rather disastrous and scarry time. The weather here has been very good indeed. Yesterday afternoon a fellow and I took a long walk to a very high rock or hill, which is called West Rock. It is very fine indeed. You can look for miles in three directions as it is a ledge dividing two valleys. You can see New Haven and beyond, the Sound. This morning as we ~~got~~ had a cut in Greek at noon, Herm Kountze, Thed and I play our first game of tennis of the season. It seemed like old times to be playing. I hope I can play more this term and a great deal at Chautauqua. Have not heard from Father for some time, but expect a letter pretty soon. I hope you are all well and suffered no harm from the storm. I hear Ed Harkness down stairs who has just come in from the show I shall ask him how it is. He said it was very good, the acting was quite good. He says the queen of the evening was a fellow who took the part of Anne Bolyn, who danced very well. My letter was suddenly interrupted as Clymer Brooke, Bob. Brewster and I went to a fire, which was the largest I have seen here. It was the freight house of the railroad. The cars along side were also burning. It was a very large fire. Well Mamma it is breakfast time so I must. Love and kisses to you and all, I am

Your loving son,

John.



[1894?]

My dear darling Mina and all the rest of the family who may be with you.

I suppose you had great excitement out there Friday night and Saturday morning but I bet you gave Thed and the crew no better send off than we gave the crew last Friday night. You probably have read an account of it in the papers so I will not go into details.

I can tell you we gave them a good time. Not only the whole college was out but also hard the town people accompanied us down to the station. We completely filled the station, some of the fellows perching themselves on the tops of freight tracks, posts etc. We had big fire crackers which lift the station in a terrible.

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[X104LAJ], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, June 7th, 1894

Title
[X104LAJ], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, June 7th, 1894

Editor's Notes
Supplied year

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Burke, Edith Lee
- Burke, Mable
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Brown, Florence
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)
- Miller, Grace A

Date
1894-06-07

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Sports, leisure, recreation

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
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[1894?]

My dear darling Mina and all the rest of the family who may be with you.

I suppose you had great excitement out there Friday night and Saturday morning but I bet you gave Thed and the crew no better send off than we gave the crew last Friday night. You probably have read an account of it in the papers so I will not go into details.

I can tell you we gave them a good time. Not only the whole college was out but also half the town people accompanied us down to the station. We completely filled the station, some of the fellows perching themselves on the tops of freight tracks, posts etc. We had big fire crackers which left the station in a terrible.

muss. While waiting for the train the fellows threw the crackers on the platforms, which the sweeper at the station did not fancy. He came out with a very important air and said he did not want us to throw any more crackers, while he was speaking one went off almost under his feet and I guess he decided it was his move for he cleared out pretty quickly.

When the train pulled in the crowd almost went wild. The people in the train must have thought that all the insane asylums of the country had been let loose. We kept up a continual shouting until the train pulled out of the station. We then marched back to the campus had a bon fire and a general celebration.

They burned up the professor, who was the cause of Marsh's staying here. Marsh you know was the substitute who could not go because he had only 2:23 out of the necessary 2:25 which the faculty determined every man must have in his studies. The feeling ran very high against the prof. to such an extent that they cremated him. Of course only in effigy.

Well, perhaps I did not have a good time last Wednesday at Farmington. I went up early with two other fellows. Took the ride on the stage and reached the school just as the girls were eating lunch. We saw them eating, or rather straining their necks to see the stage. In the afternoon called on Florence Brown. I had hoped to take a walk with her around the school but alas, Miss Porter had forbidden it. So we talked in the parlor. What made it worse was that every one in-awhile I could here the clapping of hands and shouting which came from a tennis court, where they were having a championship game, and there I had sit, missing the sight of the girls let alone the tennis.

The most fun was in the evening. The girls came to the concert in their best and I can tell it was a smooth crowd of girls. I knew three or four whom I fussed a little. After the concert we went around serenading, which was immense. Collected two large clothes baskets and two small grocery baskets of flowers. The man at the hotel said that the girls had ordered $150 worth of flowers for that day. Grace will tell you the details of the serenading so I will not waste words.

I wrote such a long letter to Mother this afternoon, over nine pages of this size, that I am about run out in the line of letter writing.

How was Miss Burke's party last night? I should have liked to have been there, it must have been fine. I hope you explained to her my reason for not coming down. Next week Tuesday my work is over and then I am coming down to see you. You must keep Grace there.

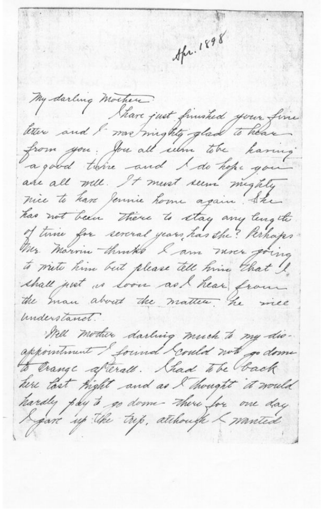
Write me as often as you can and tell father and anyone else that I should not very great objections if they just came up here for once. I have no examinations from Tuesday until next week Monday so I could have a good visit with them.

Hoping you are having a fine time

wishing to see some one at least
hear from you, I am

Your very loving brother,

June 8. John



Apr. 1898

My darling Mother

I have just finished your fine letter and I was mighty glad to hear from you. You all seem to be having a good time and I do hope you are all well. It must seem mighty nice to have Jennie home again. She has not been there to stay any length of time for several years, has she? Perhaps Mr. Marvin thinks I am never going to write him but please tell him that I shall just as soon as I hear from the man about the matter. he will understand.

Well Mother darling much to my disappointment I found I could not go down to Orange afterall. I had to be back here last night and as I thought it would hardly pay to go down there for one day I gave up the trip, although I wanted

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[X104LAK], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 1898

Title
[X104LAK], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 1898

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Cornell University
- St Paul's School
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Marvin, Richard Pratt

Date
1898-04-00

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- National government (U.S.)
- Military
- Ore milling and separation

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Apr. 1898

My darling Mother

I have just finished your fine letter and I was mighty glad to hear from you. You all seem to be having a good time and I do hope you are all well. It must seem mighty nice to have Jennie home again. She has not been there to stay any length of time for several years, has she? Perhaps Mr. Marvin thinks I am never going to write him but please tell him that I shall just as soon as I hear from the man about the matter. he will understand.

Well mother darling much to my disappointment I found I could not go down to Orange afterall. I had to be back here last night and as I thought it would hardly pay to go down there for one day I gave up the trip, although I wanted for supper then returned to the plant at 8 o'clock for our regular run. After a short preliminary run we started in earnest at 10 o'clock and from then until 10 o'clock Saturday night we took readings and observations every fifteen minutes. As far as the work itself was concerned it was not hard at all, since we had to read different thermometers, meters of all kinds, weighing of water etc. etc. Keeping awake was the hardest part of the job but I got along pretty well in this line, feeling better Saturday than Friday night as I had a little headache on Friday. Well we had a very successful test and I think I learned quite a good deal and got some very good practical experience. I was on duty all the 24 hours with the exception of two hours Saturday afternoon when another fellow and myself went to a coal mine and Examined the breaker. I was up for over 43 hours not closing my eyes more than half a minute.

Well Sunday none of us got up until about noon after having lunch we went out to a coal mine where we saw all the machinery, went down the shaft, over 500 feet deep, went into the different chambers in the mine, saw the pumps down there and also the stables where they keep about 100 mules, which drag the cars around down in the mine. It was mighty interesting I can tell you. It was the first mine that I had ever seen and I enjoyed it immensely. They ship about 1000 tons of coal a day.

Sunday evening some of us went over to a blast furnace where we saw them making pig iron. This also was very interesting. You know in these furnaces they melt the ore and then let the molten metal run directly from the furnace into the pig moulds. There is no handling of the hot metal at all, it running through troughs in the sand. This is the subject of a treatise of mine so I went around Monday morning again and investigated the apparatus much more thoroughly.

Sunday evening I call upon a couple of old friends one a Yale man in '96 Class. I found however he had been sick and had already gone to bed so I missed seeing him entirely. Then I called upon Miss Simpson. a Chautauqua girl. had a very nice visit with her, her mother and a couple of her friends. Sunday morning I was walking past a Church just as the service was finishing I had not gone far when a fellow came up and spoke to me

He was a St. Paul's school fellow and used to sit next to me in the recitations etc. We had a good time talking our school life. He is in business in Scranton. He came down to the station to see me off on Monday.

Monday after going over to the blast furnaces I took lunch at the Scranton Club with an old Cornell man, whom I met last fall at the Δ.K.E. house he set me up in fine style. After lunch I had to go to the station and I arrived up here that afternoon about five. I had a mighty nice time on the trip indeed and think it more than repaid the expense, time etc. Scranton is quite a hustling place, much larger than I supposed having a population of about 115 000. They have some very fine buildings and a corking hotel which I left almost without anything in the kitchens Sunday night. Our boarding house might have bettered the eating by one hundred percent and yet not be very good. Owing to this fact I thought I would go and get one good, square meal. Well I did not do a thing to the meal and as luck would have it was dinner. It was on the American style and what I did not order is not worth mentioning.

Well I might "Blub-blub" on in this way for some time but I must get to work. About war matters I have decided to wait until I hear how this naval battle has come out and if then the war seems to be going to be a long one I want to enlist by all means.

Sending love and love and love — (continued forever) - to you and all

Same

Your very affectionate son.

John.

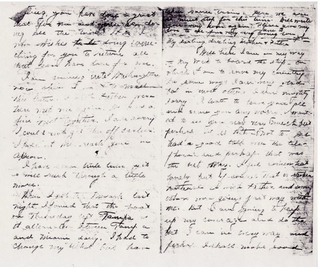
P.S. I found out from the professor that I may work shop at home so you may look for me about the middle of June.

Please forgive me for not writing on time but this is the first chance I have had to write since I left here.

Please tell Father that I liked his letter very much and thank him for his advice. I shall write him in the course of a day or so.

Good bye Again.

John.



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[X104LAK1], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, Lewis Miller, June 1898

Title
[X104LAK1], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, Lewis Miller, June 1898

Editor's Notes
Supplied year and month

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient

- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1898-06-00

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Travel
- Foreign affairs
- Military

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thing, you have done a great deal for me and are doing all the time. It is I who wishes ~~to be~~ doing something for you to return all that you have done for me.

I am coming into Washington now where I want to mail this letter. I wish Father were here with me again. We had a fine visit together. I am sorry I could not get this off earlier. I hope it will reach you in afternoon.

I have [illegible] little time yet so will rush through a little more.

When I got to Newark last night I found that the boat on Thursday left Tampa so it alternates between Tampa and Miami daily. I had to change my ticket but have

take same train. Here we are so must stop for this time. Will write you very soon again. Please give my love to all. Your very very loving son John

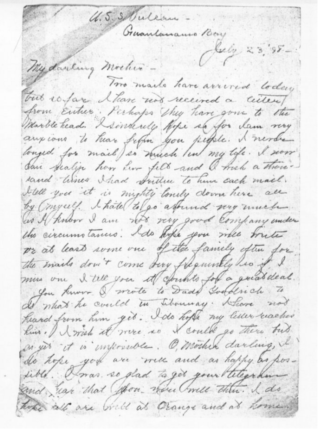
My darling darling Mother & Father

Well here I am on my way to Key West to board the ship on which I am to serve my country. In some ways I am very glad but in most others I am mighty sorry. I hate to leave you all and cause you any worry. I wanted to see you very very much but perhaps it is better not to. We had a good talk over the telephone and perhaps that was the best way. I feel somewhat lonely but of course that is rather natural. I wish Father and some others were going part way with me. But I am going to keep up my courage and do the best I can in every way and perhaps I shall make good friends and have a fairly good time. I don't think I know any one on the boat but will get acquainted as soon as possible. I think it is a pretty good boat and I shall be pretty well fixed thanks to your kind nice work Father darling. Now if the war ends by next Fall and Thede and I both arrive back O.K. every thing will be fine. I may see Thede and if I do "I won't do a thing to him." I shall be so glad to see him that I won't know what to do. I hope that I can see him.

Now Mother and Father you must not worry about me very much as I shall fare pretty well, I think. Being an officer on a good sized ship I shall have a good many privileges and advantages. If there is a nice crowd of men aboard I shall get along alright.

I am mighty sorry you and Mame did not come on a little earlier as we could have had a fine visit together. I had about concluded that my orders were never coming and I would have all summer with you. Wouldn't that be fine. We shall all be together again next winter probably when we shall have to make up for lost time. Will it not be fine when we all get together again.

I had a very nice time at Mina's. She is a darling. I think our family is perfect. She gave me $100 and I tell you I appreciate her kindness. All have been mighty good to me and I hope I am worthy of it. Mother



U.S.S. Vulcan -
Guantanamo Bay
July 23. '98 -

My darling Mother -

Two mails have arrived today but so far I have not received a letter from either. Perhaps they have gone to the Marblehead. I sincerely hope so for I am very anxious to hear from you people. I never longed for mail so much in my life. I now can realize how Lew felt and I wish a thousand times I had written to him each mail. I tell you it is mighty lonely down here all by myself. I hate to go around very much as I know I am not very good company under the circumstances. I do hope you will write or at least some one of the family often for the mails don't come very frequently so if I miss one I tell you it counts for a great deal.

You know I wrote to Dade Goodrich to do what he could in Siboney. I have not heard from him yet. I do hope my letter reaches him. I wish it were so I could go there but as yet it is impossible. O, Mother darling, I do hope you are well and as happy as possible. I was so glad to get your telegram and hear that you were well then. I do hope all are well at Orange and at home.

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[X104LAL], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 23rd, 1898

Title
[X104LAL], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 23rd, 1898

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Goodrich, David Marvin
- Burke, Edward F
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, Lewis
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1898-07-23

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Deaths and funerals
- National government (U.S.)
- Military

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U. S. S. Vulcan -
Guantanamo Bay
July 23. '98 -

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You know I wrote to Dady Goodrich to do what he could in Sibonnay. I have not heard from him yet. I do hope my letter reaches him. I wish it were so I could go there but as yet it is impossible. O, Mother darling, I do hope you are well and as happy as possible. I was so glad to get your telegram and hear that you were well then. I do hope all are well at Orange and at home.

I have heard nothing more about Thede. I wish I could go and find out all about it, but perhaps it is better as it is. I don't know what I shall do when I get back to the states and home again and not find that old life long companion. I look back over our lives with the great deal of pleasure and think of the countless good times we have had together. Thede was certainly a mighty fine fellow and he will be missed by a great many. We must endure our sorrow as best we can for the sake of others.

Not since the tenth have I heard from or about Dade or Eddie Burke. I have already told you what I heard then Father telegraphed about Eddie in away suggesting that he had been hurt. I telegraphed Dade but have had no answer. It is very hard to get word through to the army. I do hope both of the fellows are well and enjoying themselves. I often wonder about them and the other fellows whom I know.

Perhaps you would like to know how I live here. I have a separate and large state room with a desk etc. There are about 18 officers all of whom have state rooms. They are all congenial. The ship is pretty large, having fine decks etc. It was a regular passenger freight steamer once. On the lower deck, about level very well so I did not bother them with many questions supposing I would see Thede very soon. I wish now I had asked more. I shall find out someway about him, although I have tried already several ways.

Through the kindness of the Sun's Correspondent and Maj. LaGarde, of the Siboney Hospital, I know the location of Thede's grave which is distinctly marked. I sent a copy of the letter from the Correspondent to Father. I also told him or rather telegraphed him that Thede's body could not be moved North at present. We shall have to wait until later. I wish we could arrange it otherwise but probably it is better as it is.

Well, darlings, I must close as I want to write other letters. I hope Mina and the little boy are fine. I am very anxious to see him. Would it not be fine to name him Theodore?

With oceans and oceans of love to you all and thanks for your very welcome telegram, Mother darling, I am

Yours very very lovingly,

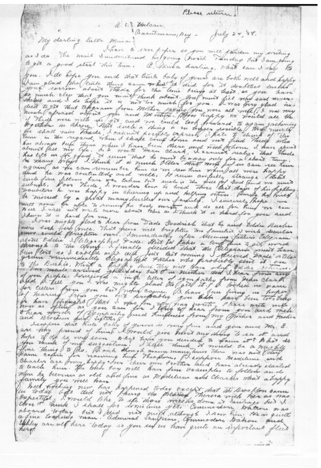
John.

Have just received a telegram from Dade saying he and Eddie Burke are well and that he has written so I will hear from him probably in a day or so and know something more about Thede. O. that he were with Dade and Eddie too but he is in a much better & happier place by far.

Must stop in haste.

Goodnight. Write often.

John.



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[X104LAM], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, July 24th, 1898

Title
[X104LAM], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, July 24th, 1898

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Mentioned

- Goodrich, David Marvin
- Burke, Edward F
- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Edison, Madeleine
- Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Miller, Louise Igoe (Mrs Robert A.)
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Sampson, William Thomas
- Schley, Winfield Scott
- Watson, John Crittenden
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1898-07-24

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Deaths and funerals
- National government (U.S.)
- Military

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Timestamp
24 July 1898

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Please return

U.S.S. Vulcan.
Guantanamo Bay - July 24, '98.

My darling Sister Mina:

I have to save paper so you will pardon my writing as I do. The mail I understand is going North Tuesday but I am going to get a good start this time. O, Mina darling, what can I say to you. I do hope you and that little baby of yours are both well and happy. I am glad the little thing came when it did for it doubtless lessens your sorrow about Thede for the time being at least, as you have so much else that you must think about. You must feel very sad nevertheless and I do hope it is not too much for you. I was very glad indeed to get that telegram from Mother saying you were all well. I was very much afraid about you and Mother. How happy we would all be if Thede were with us yet and we could look forward to again gathering together in Akron. But such a thing is no longer possible. How much we shall miss Thede, I cannot possibly express. I hate to think of the time in this regard, when I shall come home and not find Thede who has always been there when I have been there and with whom I have spent almost all my life. As I wrote Dean Clark, I cannot realize that Thede has left us for good. It seems that he must be away only for a short time. In many ways I think it is much better that none of us can see him again as we can remember him as we saw him when all were happy and he was contented and well. It seems awfully strange that such fine fellows have to be taken but such is the will of God and we must submit. Poor Thede, I wonder how he lived those last days of his fighting. Doubtless he was happy in cheering up and helping others. Surely he will be missed by a great many besides our family. I sincerely hope we will soon be able to remove his body north and do all for him we can. Well I will not write more about this as I think it is hard for you and I know it is hard for me.

I was mighty glad to hear from Dade Goodrich that he and Eddie Burke were both very well. That news will brighten two families. I wish similar news could brighten ours. Immediately after receiving father's telegram about Eddie I telegraphed Dade. But it takes a long time to get word through to the Army. I finally decided that the telegram must have been lost so I cabled as I did. Just last evening I received Dade's telegram. I immediately telegraphed Father who probably sent it on to the Burkes. What a happy time they will have when Eddie returns.

Two mails arrived yesterday but in neither did I hear from any of you people. I received a nice letter of sympathy from Dean Clark and I tell you I was mighty glad to get it. I looked in vain for letters from you but none came. I have been living in hopes of hearing from you but probably you have been too busy or have thought that I was on my way north. Please write me now as often as you can for I long to hear from you and much to hear words of sympathy and kindness from my Mother and Father and Brothers and Sisters.

I suppose that little baby of yours is very fine and you and Mr. E. are very proud of him. I would give most any thing to see it and hope to do so very soon. What have you decided to name it? What do you think of my suggestion? I still think it would be a mighty fine thing to do. I wish though many many times there was not the same cause for naming him Theodore. I suppose Madeline and Charles are very happy over their new brother and have already started to teach him. The new boy will have fine examples to follow and when he becomes as old and fine as Madeline and Charles what a happy family you will have.

Not anything new has happened today except that the Brooklyn came in today but did not bring the Maria Theresa with her as was expected. I would like to see those wrecks down at Santiago but I don't think I shall for some time yet. Commodore Watson was aboard today but I did not meet him although I saw him. He is quite a fine looking man. Admiral Sampson, Commodore Watson and Schley are all here today so you see we have quite an important fleet here.

Mina darling, that telegram I sent you first worries me a great deal. The more I think of it the more I think it was harsh and cruel. It was so short and severe. I do hope you all will forgive me for sending it as I did but really I hardly knew what I was about and let Mr. Sims practically send it. I have very often and very sincerely wished I had made it more gentle. I do hope it did not reach yours and Mothers ears as I sent it but was softened down a great deal. Please write me when you can just how you received it and just how you all are. I am very very anxious to hear from you.

I wonder where Will is today. I do hope he is well and will find some work when he gets to the States. How I wish I were returning to the States. I am going to write Will this afternoon and will send it to you hoping you will know how to get it to him. I want to write also to Rob and Louise. I am afraid they will think I have forgotten them but they are certainly mistaken. Oh, I do hope all the family are well, Mother Father Jennie yourself and the others. You must not worry about me as I am getting along very well and am perfectly safe. I am getting tired of this waiting however and wish I were someplace where I was doing something. If I don't get some other place soon I shall be starting north. What would you all think of my coming? Write me about it.

The ship is being busy now getting the ships for the Eastern Squadron ready to sail. They work until 9 o'clock in the evening and until the last two Sundays all Sunday but now they work only in the mornings. There are so many higher officers than I am that there is very little for me to do. I have been sent around to one or two ships on little errands and I am glad to get this chance to do something. As far as I have experienced so far I don't see how any man can choose to give his life to the army or navy. It is the slowest thing I ever saw. No one seems to have any ambition or spirit. I shall surely get out of the navy as soon as this war is over. Probably however it would be much different if I were aboard some ship which was moving about and in action once in a while.

Well Mina darling I will stop for today and add some more later. Good bye for a while. Try to be as cheerful as possible and cheer Mother too. How I wish I could be with you all this afternoon. How much more do I wish we all could be with Thede at home.

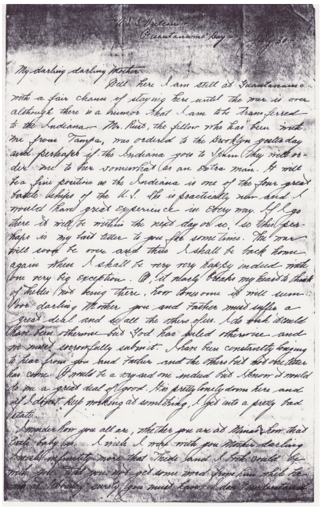
Monday - The mail is going out a little earlier than I supposed so I shall not have a chance to write much more. There is nothing new to tell [illegible] except that I am well but lonely and wishing I were in the north and at home again. Why don't you people write me. Three mails have come in during the last few days but no letters for me from you people. Are you too busy or what is the matter? Please, please write me if it is just a line, that is far better than nothing. I have just finished writing to Rob and Louise. I hope they are well and contented this summer. I hope Rob will soon be able to find a place where he can settle down and be happy. He has had a pretty hard time indeed so far. If I have time I shall write this afternoon to Will but I must go now down below and look after a few things. We are going to coal once again this afternoon. It is becoming quite an ordinary thing now. We hope to have these ships here soon fixed up and then it remains to find out what we shall do next. We may go with the fleet to Spain or we may go to Porto Rico or come North. I hope I shall be able to go to Lebanon before I leave but the place is still quarantined. As I told you before I expect to hear from Dade soon, unless they stop the letter. There I shall hear some of the particulars about dear old Thede & perhaps how much he can help us now. I do hope you people think I am doing the right thing in not going there. If by chance they want me to go I will go in a minute and feel much better satisfied myself.

Well darling Mina I must stop now. Love from the very bottom of my heart to you and that little one and all the others there and hoping you are all well, I am

Your very loving brother

John.

Do write me whenever you can, at least have the others do so.



U.S.S. Vulcan –
Guantanamo Bay – July 30 –

My darling darling Mother

Well here I am still at Guantanamo with a fair chance of staying here until the war is over although there is a rumor that I am to be transferred to the Indiana. Mr. Rust, the fellow who has been with me from Tampa, was ordered to the Brooklyn yesterday and perhaps if the Indiana goes to Spain they will order me to her somewhat as an extra man. It will be a fine position as the Indiana is one of the four great battle ships of the U.S. She is practically new and I would have great experience in every way. If I go there it will be within the next day or so, so this perhaps is my last letter to you for some time. The war will soon be over and then I shall be back home again when I shall be very very happy indeed with one very big exception. O, it nearly breaks my heart to think of Thede not being there, how lonesome it will seem. Poor darling Mother you and Father must suffer a great deal and so all the others of us. I do wish it could have been otherwise but God has willed otherwise and we must sorrowfully submit. I have been constantly longing to hear from you and Father and the others but not one letter has come. It would be a very sad one indeed but I know it would do me a great deal of good. It is pretty lonely down here and if I don't keep working at something, I get into a pretty bad state.

I wonder how you all are, whether you are at Mina's, how that little baby is. I wish I were with you Mother darling I wish infinitely more that Thede and I both could be with you. Did you not get some word from him while he was at [illegible] surely you must have. I don't understand

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[X104LAM1], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 30th, 1898

Title
[X104LAM1], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 30th, 1898

Editor's Notes
Supplied year

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Goodrich, David Marvin
- Sims, Gardiner C
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, Lewis
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1898-07-30

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Deaths and funerals
- Foreign affairs
- Ships, yachts, and other vessels
- Military

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U. S. S. Vulcan -
Guantanamo Bay - July 30 -

My darling darling Mother

Well here I am still at Guantanamo with a fair chance of staying here until the war is over although there is a rumor that I am to be transferred to the Indiana. Mr. Reid, the fellow who has been with me from Tampa, was ordered to the Brooklyn yesterday and perhaps if the Indiana goes to Spain they will order me to her somewhat as an extra man. It will be a fine position as the Indiana is one of the four great battle ships of the U.S. She is practically new and I would have great experience in every way. If I go there it will be within the next day or so, so this perhaps is my last letter to you for some time. The war will soon be over and then I shall be back home again when I shall be very very happy indeed with one very big exception. O, it nearly breaks my heart to think of Thedie not being there, how lonesome it will seem. Poor darling Mother you and Father must suffer a great deal and so all the others of us. I do wish it could have been otherwise but God has willed otherwise and we must sorrowfully submit. I have been constantly longing to hear from you and Father and the others but not one letter has come. It would be a very sad one indeed but I know it would do me a great deal of good. It is pretty lonely down here and if I don't keep working at something, I get into a pretty bad state.

I wonder how you all are, whether you are at Minas & how that little baby is. I wish I were with you Mother darling I wish infinitely more that Thede and I both could be with you. Did you not get some word from him while he was at Siboney surely you must have. I don't understand why someone did not send us word. O if I could only have gotten here a few days earlier. Well Mother darling perhaps I ought not to write this way, so I will stop. Surely Thede is in that Everlasting home where he is far happier than we can imagine and where I pray we may all meet him.

I wonder how the peace negotiations are progressing. I do hope they will soon be completed and our armies may return home before more men are sacrificed. I tell you the news of peace is mighty welcome. I have not had the hardships of warfare to any extent yet but I know partly what the word peace must mean to those fighting for there country. I suppose now the war will surely be over by the end of the summer. How many many homes will be gladden with the return of the armies but also how some will be saddened. Let us be grateful that the number of these homes are few.

Well darling there is not much to tell you. The Spaniards at Caymanera and Guantanamo have surrendered and now the whole bay is ours. There are a number of ships in the harbor but it is supposed that these in port will start for Spain Monday. then there will be very few left. After these ships have gone there will be little work for the Vulcan so in a few days we may expect to be under weigh for some other port, I hope it is for the north.

Last evening three men, officers here, were out sailing and did not show up for dinner, so four of us took the steam launch and started up the bay for them. We went quite a distance and got a fair idea of the bay but did not see the sailing party so returned to find them calmly eating their dinner, having sail out to sea instead of up the bay. We however had a nice trip. The bay is very irregular and I should judge it is mighty pretty country. As it was dark we could not see much. There are quite a number of island and long points. Most all the shore around here is made up of choral. One of the marines brought to Mr. Sims a fine piece. On account of this choral formation the water is very deep very close to shore which makes the harbor a very desirable one.

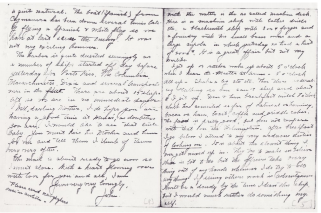
The Vulcan has been very busy lately fitting out this Eastern Squadron. I have at last gotten a little to do. It is not very much but it is far better than nothing. I am an assistant to one of the officers who takes charge of all the orders that come in. I help him in this and also have to keep the role of the engineering force. We have about 150 men in our department so it is a fair sized job to keep track of them. There are a great variety of jobs that done here and I am getting quite a little experience and very good ideas of engineering work.

Yesterday was the first day we have had any rain in the day time. Twice I think it has rained at night. One would not want a better climate than this for summer. One would hardly think he was down in the tropics. Here on the water and the eastern side of the bay there has been scarcely any rain while on the western side it seems to be raining all the time. It is very strange to see so much over there and none here.

I have been expecting to hear from Dade Goodrich ever since I received his telegram but have not as yet. I hope he received my letter and is doing whatever is possible. I wish I had gone to Libournay that first Sunday but now it is too late. That place is still quaranteened. I was in hopes of hearing from Father what he wanted me to do but it seems you have all stopped writing or telegraphing. If I do get transferred to some other ship and sent away before I can do any thing more I will ask Mr. Sims to look after things, which he will surely do, I think. He has been extremely kind for which I am very grateful. As soon as this quaranteen is removed we can easily make all necessary arrangements.

Well Mother darling there is nothing more that I can tell you, except that I am perfectly well. I do hope you and all the others are well and that I will get a letter from some-one of the family very soon. I will telegraph you if I am transferred, you however will get the telegram before this letter. The trip to Spain would be mighty fine but I would far rather go north, but now that I am in the service I am going wherever they want me. With oceans and oceans of love to you, darling, and also to Father and all the others, I will close. Good-bye for a little while -

Very very lovingly
John.



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[X104LAM2], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 1898

Title
[X104LAM2], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 1898

Editor's Notes
Supplied year and month

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1898-07-00

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Foreign affairs
- Ships, yachts, and other vessels
- Military

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is quite natural. The boat (Spanish) from Caymanera has been down several times lately flying a Spanish & White flag so we have at last seen the Enemy! It was not very exciting however.

The harbor is quite deserted seemingly as a number of ships started off day before yesterday for Porto Rico. The Columbia, Massachusetts, Dixie and several transports were in the fleet. There are about 15 ships left so we are in no immediate danger.

Well, darling Mother, I do hope you are having a good time at Minas', as doubtless you are. I would like to see that little baby. You must kiss his Mother and him for me and tell them I think of them very very often.

The mail is about ready to go now so I must close. With a heart flowing over with love for you and all, I am

Yours very very lovingly,
John.

Please send newspapers
once in awhile -

with the water is the so called machine deck. Here is a machine shop with lathes drills etc. a blacksmith shop with 3 or 4 forges and a foundry with two small brass ovens and a large cupola in which yesterday we had a heat of 2000#. It is a great affair but not very warlike.

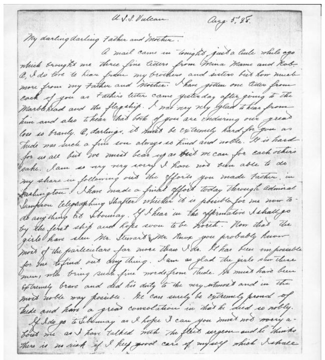
I get up or rather wake up about 5 o'clock when I hear the Master at Arms - 5 o'clock All up - Shake a leg etc etc. Then there is scrubbing & talking so one can't sleep and about 6 I get up. Don't have breakfast until 7 o'clock which has consisted so far of oatmeal or hominy, bacon or ham, toast, coffee and griddle cakes. The food is pretty good, but does not compare with that on the Wilmington. After breakfast I go below & attend to my very arduous duties of looking on. It is about the slowest thing I ever got mixed up in. They try to make us believe there is lots to do but the officers take every thing out of my hands whenever I do try to do anything. If seeing others work is advantageous I will be a dandy by the time I leave this ship. But I would much rather do something myself.

About 12:15 we have lunch then continue as in the forenoon, taking numerous recesses when I go up on deck & watch the other ships. Quitting time is at 5. Get washed up and ready for "quarters". At six we have quarters when all men not on duty gather in divisions on the upper deck when the roll is called & all men are accounted for. I have charge of one division and feel quite important once a day at least.

Immediately after drill we have dinner consisting of some kind of soup, meat & baked potatoes coffee (with out milk) & some kind of vegetable and dessert. After dinner all the officers gather on the upper deck and enjoy the evening scenes about the harbor and the evening breezes. This is a very pleasant part of the day. I go to bed about 9 o'clock.

This is my daily programme and I am getting pretty tired of it. If I had something definite to do I would not care but as it is it is pretty hard. I would like to get on some ship where there was real war life. I hope to sometime soon or I shall come north and get a leave until I am really needed. This is the easiest way to earn 1700$ I ever heard of.

Last night three of us took a little row and visited one of the Spanish prizes. It was one of their gun boats & was a little dandy. The officers & crew are all Americans & they expect to use it in the blockade. Its sister ship is the one which lies farther up the bay and which will soon fall into our hands. The only reason why they have not already surrendered is because they cannot leave from Santiago. Capt McCalla tells them that all this part of Cuba is surrendered but the Spaniards will not give up their possessions on the word of the enemy. which



U.S.S. Vulcan. Aug. 5th 98.

My darling darling Father and Mother.

A mail came in tonight just a little while ago which brought me three fine letters from Mina Mame and Rob. O, I do love to hear from my brothers and sisters but how much more from my Father and Mother. I have gotten one letter from each of you as Father's letter came yesterday after going to the Marblehead and the flagship. I was very very glad to hear from him and also to hear that both of you are enduring our great loss so bravely. O, darlings, it must be extremely hard for you as Thede was such a fine son always so kind and noble. It is hard for us all but we must bear up as best we can for each others sake. I am so very very sorry I have not been able to do my share in following out the efforts you made Father in Washington. I have made a final effort today through Admiral Sampson telegraphing Shafter whether it is possible for me now to do anything at Siboney. If I hear in the affirmative I shall go by the first ship and hope soon to be North. Now that the girls have seen Mr. Stewart & Mr. Knox you probably know most of the particulars far more than I do. It has been impossible for me to find out anything. I am so glad the girls saw these men, who bring such fine words from Thede. He must have been extremely brave and did his duty to the very utmost and in the most noble way possible. We can surely be extremely proud of Thede and have a great consolation in that he died so nobly.

If I do go to Siboney as I hope I can you must not worry about me as I have talked with the fleet surgeon and he thinks there is no risk if I keep good care of myself which I shall

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[X104LAN], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, August 5th, 1898

Title
[X104LAN], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Lewis Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, August 5th, 1898

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient

- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- New York Times
- Sims, Gardiner C
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Shafter, William Rufus
- Sampson, William Thomas
- Watson, John Crittenden
- Evans, Robley Dunglison

Date
1898-08-05

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- National government (U.S.)
- Newspapers, books, other publications
- Military

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U.S.S. Vulcan. Aug. 5, '98.

My darling darling Father and Mother.

A mail came in tonight, just a little while ago which brought me three fine letters from Mina Mame and Rob. O, I do love to hear from my brothers and sisters but how much more from my Father and Mother. I have gotten one letter from each of you as Father's letter came yesterday after going to the Marblehead and the flagship. I was very very glad to hear from him and also to hear that both of you are enduring our great loss so bravely. O, darlings, it must be extremely hard for you as Thede was such a fine son always so kind and noble. It is hard for us all but we must bear up as best we can for each other's sake. I am so very very sorry I have not been able to do my share in following out the efforts you made Father, in Washington. I have made a final effort today through Admiral Sampson telegraphing Shafter whether it is possible for me now to do any thing at Sibonnay. If I hear in the affirmative I shall go by the first ship and hope soon to be North. Now that the girls have seen Mr. Steward & Mr. Knox you probably know most of the particulars far more than I do. It has been impossible for me to find out any thing. I am so glad the girls saw these men, who bring such fine words from Thede. He must have been extremely brave and did his duty to the very utmost and in the most noble way possible. We can surely be extremely proud of Thede and have a great consolation in that he died so nobly.

If I do go to Sibonnay as I hope I can you must not worry about me as I have talked with the fleet surgeon and he thinks there is no risk if I keep good care of myself which I shall surely do. I will try to do everything as quickly as possible and telegraph you just how everything is. Darlings I will not write more about this only to add that Thede's memorandum book must be fine and very very precious. I am very anxious to see it. Poor darling Thede. I am so glad he could send the one letter anyway.

Well I am in about the same fix as I have been right along but am gradually getting used to it and trying to make the best of it. I have quite a little work to do and together with watching the different jobs I manage to put in my time pretty well. I am gradually getting in with the different officers but it is awfully hard to do so when I feel as I do. But I am trying to brighten up and go and talk with them. They are very nice especially Mr. Sims. It seems very funny that my telegrams should be so mixed up. I wonder how you made them out at all. Mr. Sims has been very kind to me indeed and I am mighty glad he is here on the ship.

We thought we would have a little rest now tonight as the Eastern squadron was to sail at six this evening but now that they have not gone they have found great quantities of repairs which will keep us as busy as ever. This is a great ship and has already done wonders. They do about everything from making a plain bolt to making large forgings for anchors, almost new engines, repairing large copper pipes, making new gun mounts etc. etc. It is quite wonderful to see them work in the small quarters we have. Perhaps I will be able to bring back some pictures of the ship. I wish I had brought our Kodak. Tomorrow we are going to pour iron again from the cupola. This will keep me pretty busy all day I think as I have had charge of getting out the iron etc.

Everything is quiet as usual here, except for the departure of the marines from Camp McCalla. They have removed their entire camp which has taken them all day. The hill looks very deserted. They are all staying on the Resolute tonight as they sail early tomorrow morning. I saw a supplement of the N.Y. Times of July 24th tonight. It contains some pretty good pictures of the camp. I shall enclose this unless this is the only paper we have in which case I will have to omit it and you can get it in Akron. The Vulcan must have just missed being in the picture as the torpedo boats and large ship you see on the left of the picture are very close to us. I wish they had gotten us in too. The description tells you pretty fully about the picture. We are anchored with a quarter of a mile of the camp. The marines are very glad that they are going and have been cheering most all evening. They expect to go to Nuevitas, I think. Perhaps they will get into a worse place than this, as the climate here is fine. But they must have gotten very tired of the place.

There seems to be little hope of our coming north for some time yet as we have a great deal of work here. I hope the peace negotiations will soon be settled and we shall be ordered north. How glad I shall be to get home again. I do hope I will get there by September at least. Surely they will have time to settle things by that time I should think.

As far as my health is concerned I am feeling pretty good. All are very well on the ship except one or two who have hurt themselves slightly in the shops. We still have pretty good grub, our breakfast still being made up of bacon, oatmeal, toast & coffee.

I think I will turn into bacon (Bacon) pretty soon if there is not a change pretty soon. Our fruit supply is run out but we get ice water which I still consider a great luxury.

Today when I went aboard the flagship to see the Admiral Commodore Watson was with him. In his honor, I hardly think it was for me, they had the band and a company of marines mustered on the quarter deck. When the commodore left the ship the band played and the marines presented arms. this is the custom when a captain or commanding officer comes aboard for official business, the number mustered depending upon the rank of the officer. While I was talking with the Admiral Fighting Bob Evans came aboard and again they had some marines drawn up but no band. The Admiral did not introduce me to Cap't Evans, strange as it may appear. Cap't Evans is a rather small man and lame in one knee, having been wounded I believe in some battle. The Admiral is an extremely quiet and deliberate and seemingly kind hearted man. He was surely very kind to me. Both times I have met him one would not think he was the commander in chief of our greatest ships. I don't think he impresses one as a great man owing to his quiet manner, although I think some great men are extremely quiet and deliberate.

There are some very fine ships in the harbor now, including the New York, Brooklyn, Oregon, Massachusetts, Indiana, Iowa, Newark, Detroit, Yankee, Dixie and several others. It is a very powerful fleet and they make a very fine showing. I would like to see them all start off together. It would make a wonderful sight. We are all pretty close together so we get a good idea of them all. I like the New York the best of all. Of course the Oregon without doubt is the prize ship. She lies quite a distance from us, being almost at the entrance of the ~~harbor~~.

Well darlings it is now 25 minutes of twelve and as I want to write a letter to Mame & Grace tomorrow morning before breakfast I think I had better close. How I wish I were with you at home tonight, but I don't think it will be long before I will be there. I am going to take a month or so off from college and have a long fine visit with you both. O, darlings, I do hope you are both well and looking on the bright side of all. Good night darlings may everything be well with us all this night. Will add a little more tomorrow if possible.

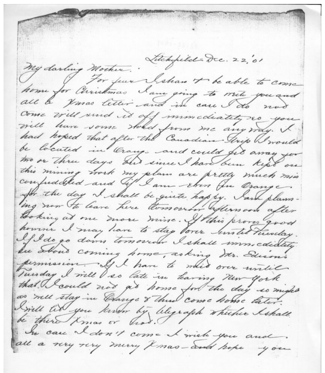
This is Saturday morning about 11:30. It is a fine day as most all of the days have been. It is wonderful how cool it is here. It has never been above 90 in the captains cabin since I have been here and now I can right pretty comfortably down here in my state room. Darlings, I wonder how you are today. I wish over and over again I were up there with you. How glad I would be. I hope Jennie is also well. I have not heard from her since the tenth but I hope she has been as brave as the rest. It must have been very hard for her.

Well I have not heard from Gen. Shafter yet but surely I will get some word today which will decide whether we can bring Thede north now or whether we shall have to wait until cold weather. So perhaps this is my last letter from here it is surely the last I shall write about trying to get Thede north for I have decided to patiently wait until fall if I can't do anything now and I think it would be best for all of us if that is the case to resign ourselves to the idea. I am very very sorry I could not do better but I do hope I can do something Please write me as often as you can both of you. I long to hear whether you think I have done right in not going to Siboney.

Well the mail is about to go so I will have to bring this letter to an End. Father dear I want to thank you for sending me your correspondence as it will come in very handy. Look for the papers very soon. Well Good bye darlings. With love from the very bottom of my heart I am

Yours very very lovingly,

John.



Litchfield - Dec. 22,'01

My darling Mother:

For fear I shan't be able to come home for Christmas I am going to write you and all a Xmas letter and in case I do not come will send it off immediately so you will have some word from me anyway. I had hoped that after the Canadian trip I would be located in Orange and could get away for two or three days but since I have been kept on this mining work my plans are pretty much mis confuddled and if I am even in Orange for the day I shall be quite happy. I am planning now to leave here tomorrow afternoon after looking at one more mine. If this proves good however I may have to stay over until Tuesday. If I do go down tomorrow I shall immediately see about coming home, asking Mr. Edison's permission. If I have to wait over until Tuesday I will be so late in leaving New York that I could not get home for the day so might as well stay in Orange & then come home later. I will let you know by telegraph whether I shall be there Xmas or not.

In case I don't come I wish you and all a very very merry Xmas - and hope you

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[X104LAO], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, December 22nd, 1901

Title
[X104LAO], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, December 22nd, 1901

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Hubbard, John Tomlinson
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1901-12-22

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAO

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1901-12-22

Litchfield – Dec. 22,'01

My darling Mother:

For fear I shan't be able to come home for Christmas I am going to write you and all a Xmas letter and in case I do not come will send it off immediately so you will have some word from me anyway. I had hoped that after the Canadian trip I would be located in Orange and could get away for two or three days but since I have been kept on this mining work my plans are pretty much mis confuddled and if I am even in Orange for the day I shall be quite happy. I am planning now to leave here tomorrow afternoon after looking at one more mine. If this proves good however I may have to stay over until Tuesday. If I do go down tomorrow I shall immediately see about coming home, asking Mr. Edison's permission. If I have to wait over until Tuesday I will so late in leaving New York that I could not get home for the day so might as well stay in Orange & then come home later. I will let you know by telegraph whether I shall be there Xmas or not.

In case I don't come I wish you and all a very very merry Xmas – and hope you will have an elegant time as doubtless you will. I shall be thinking of you wishing I were with you. As I told Mame you must not look for any presents from me just yet but as soon as I get home or to New York I shall try to get a few remembrances. I wish I knew what you would like the most.

I have not gotten any presents except a few in Canada. I want to remember you and the grand children anyway. Mina's special present I have not been able to get either but shall try on Tuesday.

Well I have just come in from taking tea with the Hubbard family. Mr. Hubbard is the man who is interested in the nickel mines here. He is a Yale graduate of the class of '80 and has two brothers who are also Yale men. Had a very pleasant time indeed talking over college days, historical points of Litchfield etc. This is quite an historical place. Aaron Burr did considerable of his writing here. Washington was supposed to have quartered. A statue of George III formerly standing in New York, being made of lead, was brought here melted into bullets, in the time on the Revolution, in a house still standing. The Beecher family hails from here. I saw today also the house in which ex President Dwight spends his summers and also the Underwood Establishment which is quite extensive. they have a very pretty place near the centre of town. Litchfield, you know, is quite a summer residence place.

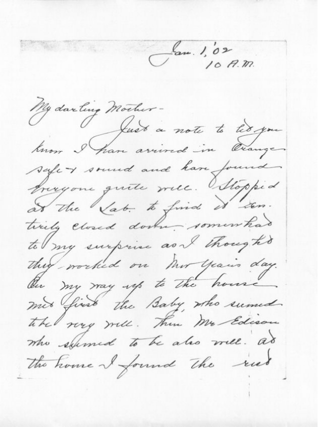
We have been back here in the town since Friday night having completed the work for the present around the farmers house. We fared very well there having a comfortable room & good eating, fine griddle cakes every morning for instance. I am somewhat doubtfull as to the value of the deposits, in some ways they look in others not. It would be fine if we could strike some thing. Tomorrow I investigate one more place and then I guess I am through until after Xmas any-way. We have had pretty cold weather, the thermometer registering 5 above this morning. It is pretty cold for out door work where one does not keep pretty much on the move. that is one great trouble, taking readings with a dip needles requires one to stand still a good share of the time and hold one arm up so it stops the circulation. I hope if Mr. Edison wants more of this kind of work done he will send me south instead of north.

Darling I do wish I were with you tonight and sitting with the rest of the family around the fire place talking over experiences etc. I certainly hope I shall be before long. Those fur gloves you sent me have come in finely and have kept my hands very warm. I use the older pair for work and the new pair other times. I thank you over & over again for them.

Well I must close now. I send you love and kisses without limit. Give my love to Each & every one of the family - Again

- Merry Xmas to all -

Your very loving son
John.



Jan. 1, '02
10 A.M.

My darling Mother -
Just a note to let you know I have arrived in Orange safe & sound and have found everyone quite well. Stopped at the Lab. to find it entirely closed down somewhat to my surprise as I thought they worked on New Years day. On my way up to the house met first the Baby, who seemed to be very well. Then Mr Edison who seemed to be also well. at the house I found the rest

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[X104LAP], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, January 1st, 1902

Title
[X104LAP], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, January 1st, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- West Orange Laboratory
- Bruch, Kate Patterson
- Mallory, Walter Seeley
- Miller, Ira Mandeville
- Edison, Edith Clarissa
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1902-01-01

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
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Document ID
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Jan. 1, '02
10 A.M.

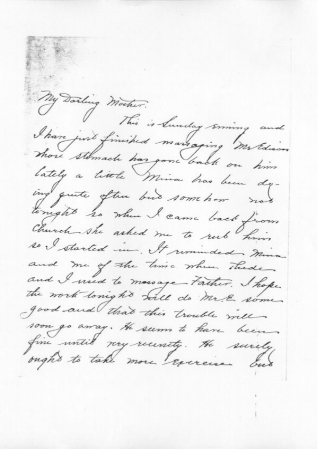
My darling Mother -

Just a note to let you know I have arrived in Orange safe & sound and have found everyone quite well. Stopped at the Lab. to find it entirely closed down, somewhat to my surprise as I thought they worked on New Year's day. On my way up to the house met first the Baby, who seemed to be very well. then Mr Edison who seemed to be also well. At the house I found the rest of the family all well. Edith was up last evening & stayed over night. Mrs. Bruck is coming over for dinner. Maria & Mr. E. are going over to New York tomorrow night to the Theatre with Walter Mallory. What strange things happen around New Years day.

Darling, I would like to have stayed with you over today but it would have been as hard to leave one time as another. I enjoyed my visit very much and thank you and all for the good time you gave me Satturday night & all the time. You must not think I meant all that talk over at Ira's about not having enough to Eat. It was all in fun.

I do hope you will soon come on. Good bye for this time.

Yours very lovingly
John



My Darling Mother.

This is Sunday evening and I have just finished massaging Mr Edison whose stomach has gone back on him lately a little. Mina has been doing quite often but somehow not tonight so when I came back from Church she asked me to rub him so I started in. It reminded Mina and me of the time when Thede and I used to massage Father. I hope the work tonight will do Mr. E some good and that this trouble will soon go away. He seems to have been fine until very recently. He surely ought to take more exercise but

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[X104LAQ], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, January 5th, 1902

Title
[X104LAQ], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, January 5th, 1902

Editor's Notes
Supplied year

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- West Orange Laboratory
- Edison Storage Battery Co
- Harkness, Edward Stephen
- United States Steel Corp
- Hill, Ebenezer, Jr
- Judd, Bill
- Darrach, William
- Edison, Charles
- Brown, Thatcher M
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1902-01-05

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- TAE health
- Stocks, bonds, and investments
- Ore exploration and mining

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My Darling Mother:

This is Sunday evening and I have just finished massaging Mr Edison whose stomach has gone back on him lately a little. Mina has been doing quite often but somehow not tonight so when I came back from Church she asked me to rub him so I started in. It reminded Mina and me of the time when Thede and I used to massage Father. I hope the work tonight will do Mr. E some good and that this trouble will soon go away. He seems to have been fine until very recently. He surely ought to take more exercise but

I suppose one might as well try to make a human being as try to persuade him to take more exercise. He was ought a little this afternoon with Mammie and Charles. He became interested in a skating pond so we all started to lay a hose. We are letting the water run all night in that field near the barn. I guess there will be some ice there in the morning but it is not as cold as it might, being only 25.

Since my return I have been pretty busy getting things together for my next trip, reading up on the locality etc. Wednesday night I called on the Kirkland family. The youngest girl was giving a card party much to my surprise upon entering the house. I was going to excuse myself but Miss Kirkland said that she was not to enter into the party any way etc etc. & wanted me to come in so I did. I don't know but what I made a mistake. She asked about Grace & wanted to know whether she would be here this spring.

Friday I was busy at the Lab all day and yesterday I went over & saw Thatcher Brown about stocks etc. but did not invest as I wanted to consider his propositions a little. I am going to write him tomorrow. I have about decided to invest in the Edison Storage

Pardon the looks of this page -

Battery Co - The U.S. Steel Co & then some railroad bonds. This will give me something I am sure of and also a risk, with a very good show of making something.

Yesterday also I arranged for a dinner for the fellows of my crowd. Had Ed Harkness, Eb Hall, Bill Judd & Deacon Delamp. Wanted to have Thatcher Brown & Bill Darrach but neither of them could come. After a smooth dinner at Martins we went to see Weber & Fields, which was great. Mina invited me to go to a matinee in the afternoon. Annie Russel in The Girl & the Judge and in the Evening I saw the burlesque of it. They were both very good indeed. All the fellows inquired about you and the girls. We had a very nice time. At least I did in spite of the worry about the dinner. I gave the thing as I thought I was very much in debt to Ed, Thatch and the Bills. It was my first experience at ordering like that so I was not very sure of myself. I guess it was not very bad any way. The fellows seemed to enjoy themselves all right.

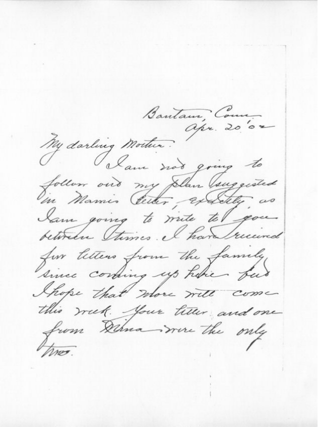
Tomorrow I start off again for Pennsylvania. I shall be gone three or four weeks perhaps but if any snow comes & stays any length of time of course I shall come back. I am not sure what my address will be so you had better send your letters to the Lab. first and they will forward them. I have been looking for a letter from you for quite a while but as yet neither Mina or I have received one. All were very much pleased with your little gift with the letters.

Well Darling I must close for this time. With love to you and all I am

Yours very lovingly-

John.

Jan. 5.



Bantam, Conn
Apr. 20'02

My darling Mother.

I am not going to follow out my plan suggested in Mamie's letter, exactly, as I am going to write to you between times. I have received few letters from the family since coming up here but I hope that more will come this week. Your letter and one from Mina were the only two.

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[X104LAR], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 20th, 1902

Title
[X104LAR], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 20th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1902-04-20

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
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Document ID
X104LAR

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Bantam, Conn.
Apr. 20 '02

My darling Mother:

I am not going to follow out my plan suggested in Mamies letter, exactly, as I am going to write to you between times. I have received few letters from the family since coming up here but I hope that more will come this week. Your letter and one from Anna were the only two.

There is very little news in this hole but I have gotten into considerable trouble today. First went to the Methodist Church expecting there would be preaching, but found after we had gotten in that it was a class meeting. Then came home for dinner to have soup, cold meat, boiled potatoes & custard pie. Then this evening we had coffee, cold meat & sliced Oranges. Went to Church again this evening & went in with all the crowd & a number of other young men of the town. Just as the service was closing the

Electric lights went out & some of the town fellows began laughing & throwing things around that started our men. Of course it gives a very bad impression & I am very much disgusted. I am afraid it will come back on me more or less. I will not go with the crowd again to any thing of the kind. I am mighty sorry and half inclined to write a note to the minister and Explain matters. But perhaps I will not help matters, he may think our men were all quiet.

Now Darling I have decided to take out some life insurance and as it is necessary to fill out some questions in regard to my grand parents, which I do not know I am sending the form to you with the request you have the omitted questions answered. Have some one write the dates Etc. in in pencil, then send it to H. H. Kendall. 307 New England Building, Cleveland, O. I shall be very much obliged to you, if you will see that this is done immediately.

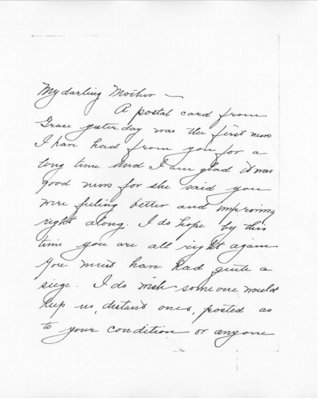
My friend Kendall with whom I am taking out this insurance wants me to go to New York to have his company physician examine me. He has offered to pay my expenses down there but I guess that is hardly right but perhaps it is business though. I think I will go down next Saturday afternoon & then run out to Orange for the evening & Sunday morning.

I wonder how you are to-night. I hope you and all

are well and Every thing is
O.K. Please give my love to
all. Keep a great quantity
for yourself. Good night.

Yours very lovingly -

John -



My darling Mother —
A postal card from
Grace yesterday was the first news
I have had from you for a
long time And I am glad it was
good news for she said you
were feeling better and improving
right along. I do hope by this
time you are all right again
You must have had quite a
siege. I do wish some one would
keep us, distant ones, posted as
to your condition or anyone

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[X104LAS], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, May 11th, 1902

Title
[X104LAS], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, May 11th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Harkness, Edward Stephen
- Miller, Grace A
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Opdyke, Claude Heft

Date
1902-05-11

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
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Document ID
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My darling Mother —

A postal card from Grace yesterday was the first news I have had from you for a long time And I am glad it was good news for she said you were feeling better and improving right along. I do hope by this time you are all right again. You must have had quite a siege. I do wish some one would keep us, distant ones, posted as to your condition or anyone

Else when ill, if only by a postal. We are all very anxious to hear. I hope however there will no need of such things for a long time.

Well this is a fine day and as I have been to church this morning and had a cold dinner I am going out driving this afternoon. My first assistant Opdyke and I are going to take the two belles of Bantam for a drive. It is too good a day to miss.

Yesterday I had a letter from Ed Harkness saying he had been invited to take dinner at Mina's one evening and had taken her to an orchestra concert afterward. He asked me to go first but as I was up here I declined. I wrote Mina that he was coming over for the concert & it would be nice to have him up for dinner. So she did & he asked her to go to the concert. I hope Mina enjoyed it. She ought to have more people in like that. Ed wants me to visit him some Sunday at Lenox where they have a home for the summer. I should like to see him & the place very much and I guess I shall have to accept.

The work is progressing pretty well up here and every thing is O.K. except the grub which is certainly terrific. I don't think I ever experienced any thing of the kind. Even at the lowest ebb of our larder in Canada we fared as well. I shall be glad when we can move to another place.

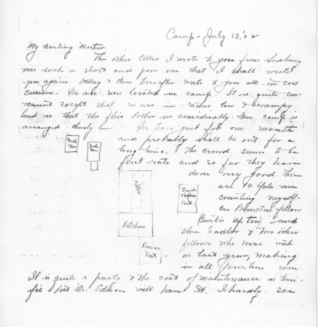
I want to take another trip too
before starting for Canada &
that is to go home. I should
like to see you and the
others surely and if you don't
come on to Minnie's I shall
have to come home for a
Sunday. What are your plans
for the summer?

Well, Darling, the carriage
is here so I must close.
Give my love to all and
keep a lot for yourself.

Yours very lovingly

John.

May 11, '02



Camp - July 13, '02

My darling Mother.

The other letter I wrote to you from Sudbury was such a short and poor one that I shall write you again today & then hereafter write to you all in succession. We are now located in camp. It is quite convenient except that we are in rather low & swampy land so that the flies bother us considerably. Our camp is arranged thusly — We have grub for one month and probably shall be out for a long time. The crowd seems to be first rate and so far they have done very good. There are 10 Yale men counting myself — one Princeton fellow (Curtis Upton) and then Sadler & two other fellows who were with us last year, making in all fourteen men. It is quite a party & the cost of maintenance is terrific but Mr. Edison will have it. I hardly see

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[X104LAU], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 13th, 1902

Title
[X104LAU], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 13th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- St Paul's School
- Edison, Charles
- Edison, Madeleine
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Upton, Curtis Perry
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1902-07-13

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
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Document ID
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Camp - July 13, '02

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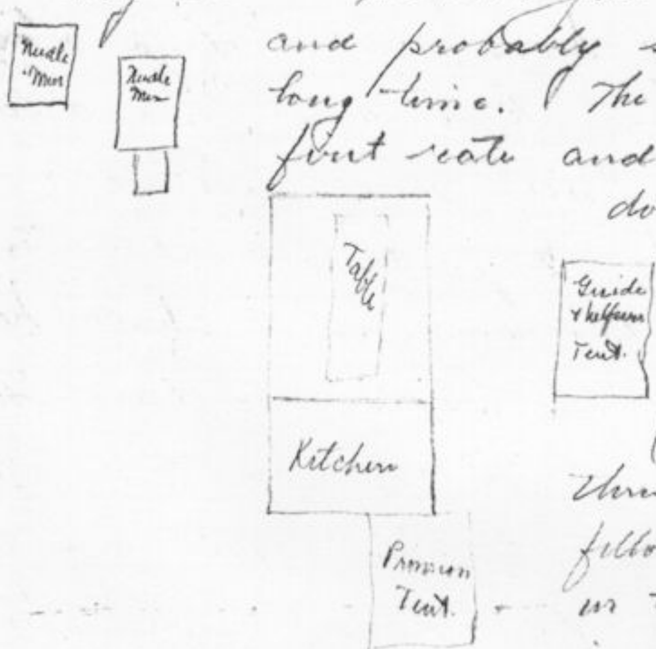


We have grub for one month and probably shall be out for a long time. The crowd seem to be first rate and so far they have done very good. There are 10 Yale men counting myself - one Princeton fellow (Curtis Upton) and then Sadler & two other fellows who were with us last year, making in all fourteen men. It is quite a party & the cost of maintenance is terrific but Mr. Edison will have it. I hardly see the good of it. Of course we run chances of finding some thing much better than we did last year but still I should think he would develop some of his finds of last year before doing more prospecting work. I do hope we shall find some thing fine.

Now, Darling, I hated awfully to miss that trip home & seeing you and all but when I reconsidered the matter I decided that I could hardly afford to run out there for just a day. I wanted though to see you very much before coming up here in this wilderness. If I had not been poisoned so I could have rushed things along more I would perhaps have had more time and gotten out there. I was pretty much rushed & those two holidays delayed things considerably too. Not having come out this summer I shall have a chance to strike for a longer vacation Christmas time. I wish you might come up here with Mina & Mr. Edison. I think of you all very very much & imagining you having a fine time with Mina & the children all at home! I wonder if Mina arrived on the appointed day. I would like to be with you all today sitting around the old family table. Dear old Oak Place. How often I think of it & wish it were as it used to be. Would that one of us could strike a good thing & take the place & keep it up in good shape. You all are doing wonders as it is. I hope to get a letter from you today telling me of home & what you have decided to do in regard to my proposition.

Had quite a visit in Montreal staying about a day there. Visited two cathedrals which were very large & modeled after European buildings - One was Notre Dame which was quite fine & large. The sides of the main auditorium were lined with confessionals. It seems queer to think of people believing in all those queer things. It is said that this church has the largest bell in America. Then a party of us visited Mount Royal, which is a small hill near the city from which a fine view of the surrounding country can be had. It has been made into a park & is quite fine. After this we made a trip up the river St. Lawrence by rail & then came down by boat through the La Chine rapids. This was very good. The rapids are quite swift & the boat runs within fifty or sixty feet of the corr rocks which can be seen just above the water. The waves splash around in great shape & it is quite fine. Montreal is quite a large place & quite fine.

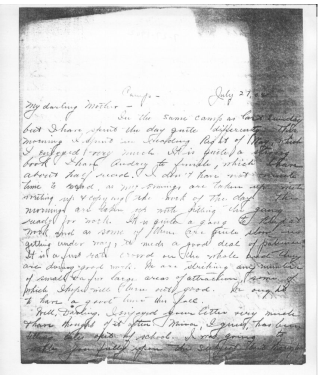
We arrived in Sudbury to find things about the same. The the new hotel is finished & for rooms Etc is far better than the American but the grub is about the same. Then they have an Opera house or rather a theatre in an old building & also have a telephone system. The largest mining Company has closed down quite a good deal & as they have let off about 1500 men business is a little slow. They claim they are putting in new machinery & will soon start up again.

Well Darling I want to write another letter so must close. Congratulations for Lew & also an inquiry for Tom & Grace. Are they going to give anything towards the monument at St Pauls? I would like to hear from them as soon as possible.

Good bye for this time. Love to you and all,

Yours very lovingly -

John -



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[X104LAV], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 27th, 1902

Title
[X104LAV], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, July 27th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Edison, Charles
- Edison, Madeleine
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1902-07-27

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Newspapers, books, other publications
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAV

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27 July 1902

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Camp - July 27, 04

My darling Mother -

In the same camp as last Sunday but I have spent the day quite differently. This morning I spent in reading Right of Way, which I enjoyed very much. It is quite a strong book. I have Audrey to finish, which I have about half read. I don't have very much time to read, as my evenings are taken up with writing up & copying the work of the day. The mornings are taken up with getting the gang ready for work. It is quite a gang to keep at work and as some of them are quite slow in getting under way, it needs a good deal of patience. It is a first rate crowd on the whole and they are doing good work. We are striking any number of small & a few large areas of attraction, some of which I hope will turn out good. We ought to have a good time this fall.

Well, Darling, I enjoyed your letter very much & have thought of it often. Mina, I guess, has been telling tales out of school. I was going to write you fully upon the subject but thought differently. When I see you the next time we shall talk it over. I have not been much satisfied in some ways with life, but I guess I have been somewhat crazy. It is a good deal as one makes it. But to my mind it is impossible for some. I have not received the little book but know what you have sent & will read it over. You [illegible] Jimmie gave us all a copy of it. I suppose the book is in Sudbury awaiting the next messenger out.

Our daily programme is much the same as last year.

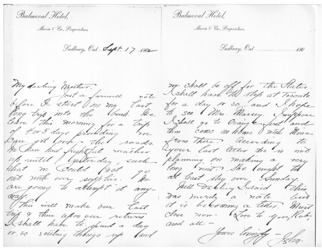
5:30 - Rising call -
6:00 Breakfast
6 - 7 Putting up lunches & preparing for work.
7 - 6 Work on the lines -
7:00 Supper -
Evening Working up reports; singing & reading
10:00 Sleep -

We are having very long twilight. It is now nearly nine o'clock & still it is quite light. I happened to look at my watch few minutes ago thinking it was about 7:30 or 8 o'clock but to my surprise it was 10 minutes of nine.

I suppose you are all having a fine time [illegible] with Mina & the kids. It is a great gang. Tell Mina I have a trade card for Bert. Had a letter from Madeline telling me of her new aunt Caroline. [illegible] to write for tonight.

Well, Darling, I must close, in order to get in these two other letters. Good night Darling. Love & kisses to you and all -

Yours very lovingly -
John -



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[X104LAW], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 17th, 1902

Title
[X104LAW], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 17th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Massey, Eliza Ann Phelps (Mrs Hart A.)
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1902-09-17

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAW

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Balmoral Hotel,
Morin & Co., Proprietors.

Sudbury, Ont Sept. 17 1902

My darling Mother.

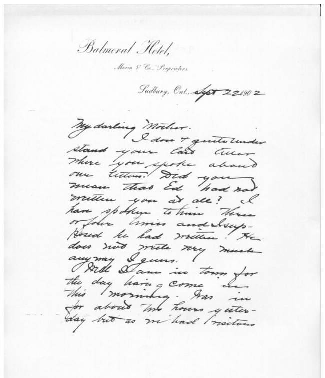
Just a farewell note before I start on my last long trip into the bush. We leave this morning for a trip of 4 or 5 days providing we can get over the roads. We have had frightful weather up until yesterday, such that we could not go out with our supplies. We are going to attempt it anyway.

This will make our last trip & then upon our return I shall have to spend a day or so settling things up and

we shall be off for the States. I shall have to stop at Toronto for a day or so - and I hope to see Mrs. Massey. I suppose I shall go to Orange first and then come on home with Mina from there. According to your last letter she is not planning on making a very long visit. She ought to at least stay over Sunday.

Well Darling I said this was merely a note but it is becoming a letter. Must close now - Love to you, Rob, and all -

Yours lovingly - John.



Balmoral Hotel,
Morin & Co., Proprietors.

Sudbury, Ont., Sept 22 1902

My darling Mother.

I don't quite understand your last letter where you spoke about our letters. Did you mean that Ed had not written you at all? I have spoken to him three or four times and I supposed he had written. He does not write very much anyway I guess.

Well I am in town for the day having come in this morning. Was in for about two hours yesterday but as we had visitors

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[X104LAX], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 22nd, 1902

Title
[X104LAX], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 22nd, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Miller, Robert Anderson

Date
1902-09-22

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAX

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Balmoral Hotel,

Morin & Co., Proprietors.

Sudbury, Ont., Sept 22 1902

My darling Mother.

I don't quite understand your last letter where you spoke about our letters. Did you mean that Ed had not written you at all? I have spoken to him three or four times and I supposed he had written. He does not write very much anyway I guess.

Well I am in town for the day having come in this morning. Was in for about two hours yesterday but as we had visitors

Balmoral Hotel,

Morin & Co., Proprietors.

Sudbury, Ont., 190

I hustled back. They staid over night and three of us came in this morning. We are located quite near town, about 3 miles away, so it is not much of a job to run in. Have had a horse but I have decided to give it up for a week or so while we are so near.

Well I suppose school is about ready to start. Have the girls made any improvements in the house? I hope they have a most successful year.

Balmoral Hotel,

Morin & Co., Proprietors.

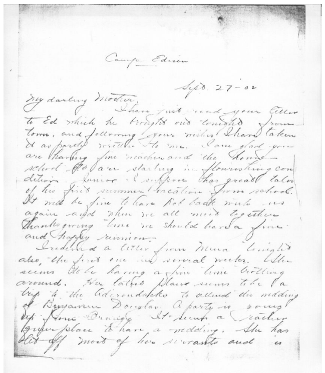
Sudbury, Ont., 190

I am glad to hear Rob is coming up and we must surely try to have a reunion. I am ready to come if possible. Thanks-giving would be as good a time as any I should think.

What have you done about the steam heat for the house. I wonder if you have decided to use the green house furnace. Write me and tell me all the news.

Must hustle back to camp now so will have to close for this time.

Yours very lovingly
John



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[X104LAY], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 27th, 1902

Title
[X104LAY], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 27th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Waymouth, Grace Cromwell
- Miller, Ira Mandeville
- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Douglass, Benjamin, Jr
- Miller, Robert Anderson, Jr
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1902-09-27

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
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Document ID
X104LAY

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Camp Edison

Sept. 27-02

My darling Mother,

I have just read your letter to Ed which he brought out tonight from town, and following your wishes I have taken it as partly written to me. I am glad you are having fine weather and the Home school etc are starting in flourishing condition. Junior I suppose has great tales of his first summer vacation from school. It will be fine to have Rob back with us again and when we all meet together Thanksgiving time we should have a fine and happy reunion.

I received a letter from Mina tonight also, the first one in several weeks. She seems to be having a fine time trotting around. Her latest plan seems to be a trip to the Adirondacks to attend the wedding of Benjamin Douglas. A party is going up from Orange. It seems a rather queer place to have a wedding. She has let off most of her servants and is now busy finding new ones. Poor girl she does seem to have lots of trouble. But I guess she will manage to pull through someway. It is pretty bad to lose her ring and it seems funny she can't get any track of it. Mame is not making a very long stay with her.

All things in camp are about the same as usual, although we have had three rather bad days in succession. Have been trying to move but the weather has been too bad. We shall have to move tomorrow sure. Ed is getting along first rate and seems to enjoy the life quite well. He has a rather hard time keeping up with the younger & longer legged fellows.

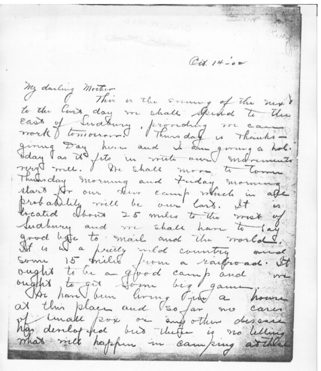
I suppose the season will last another month as I have written Mr Edison that it would not be very profitable to keep the gang later than the 1st of November. Perhaps he will want me to examine some mines, in which case one or two of the needle men will remain with me for a time.

- The summer has gone pretty fast and winter is almost upon us. It hardly seems possible. Perhaps the time has gone fast because I have been pretty busy. It certainly has kept me on the jump.

There is not much more to tell you so I guess I shall have to close. Give my love to Grace, Lew, Ira and remember me most kindly to Miss Weymouth. With oceans & oceans of love to you, I remain

Your loving son.

John -



Oct. 14-'02

My darling Mother

This is the evening of the next to the last day we shall spend to the East of Sudbury, providing we can work tomorrow. Thursday is Thanksgiving Day here and I am giving a holiday as it fits in with our movements very well. We shall move to town Thursday morning and Friday morning start for our new camp which in all probability will be our last. It is located about 25 miles to the west of Sudbury and we shall have to say good bye to mail and the world. It is in a pretty wild country and some 15 miles from a railroad. It ought to be a good camp and we ought to get some big game.

We have been living in a house at this place and so far no cases of small pox or any other disease has developed but there is no telling what will happen in camping at these

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[X104LAZ], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, October 14th, 1902

Title
[X104LAZ], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, October 14th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- St Paul's School
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Lewis Alexander

Date
1902-10-14

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LAZ

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14 October 1902

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Oct. 14-'00

My darling Mother

This is the evening of the next to the last day we shall spend to the East of Sudbury, providing we can work tomorrow. Thursday is Thanksgiving Day here and I am giving a holiday as it fits in with our movements very well. We shall move to town Thursday morning and Friday morning start for our deer camp which in all probability will be our last. It is located about 25 miles to the west of Sudbury and we shall have to say good bye to mail and the world. It is in a pretty wild country and some 15 miles from a railroad. It ought to be a good camp and we ought to get some big game.

We have been living in a house at this place and so far no cases of small pox or any other disease has developed but there is no telling what will happen in camping at these old mining camps. We have been quite comfortable however, having bunks for once. The bedding consisting of hay.

We have had two bad days however as last Wednesday we had a big snow storm. It snowed all morning covering the ground for days with 2 inches of snow. It was indeed quite wintry. Then yesterday it rained all day today it has been a snow a few flakes flying in the air most of the day

Sunday I broke one of the golden rules by working. I had a rather hard time to decide where we should move next and a locality was suggested by a man in town and as time was quite short I had to go up Sunday or rather Saturday night. Had quite a time as we rode up on a half freight & passenger train. Fortunately it was on time and we got to our destination in good shape. Upon our arrival we had to persuade a family to keep us over night. It was a very clean place but crude. Had a very light supper and had to sleep on the floor. Sunday we started off through the country.

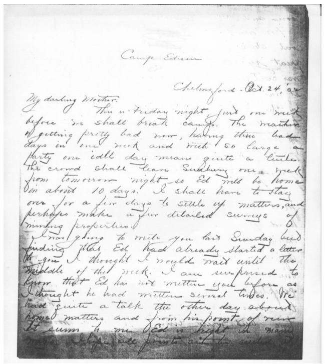
Were going to take the local back to [illegible] about 3:30, but waiting until about 5 o'clock we heard that the train had been abandoned. So we got our supper and then walked up to the next, so called station a distance of 4½ miles. Found here only a tower house with an operator. It was warm however. Waited here until about 4 A. M. for the Express. Had to telegraph the Div. Sup't to have the train stop for us.

Spent the time sleeping in a bunk and on the floor & listening to the experiences of the operator. Were joined about 12 o'clock by a doctor and two other men from Sudbury finally arrived in town about 5 A.M. in a pouring rain. Went to bed for a little sleep and left for camp about eleven o'clock.

Found the fellows all in & eating dinner. Told them that we were going to have a foot ball game with a picked team from Sudbury on Thanksgiving Day. Great excitement in camp. Had a little preliminary practice.

Well I guess this is all the news. I have sent 75$^{\underline{00}}$ to St. Paul's for the Memorial, counting on Grace to give $2 and Lew, if he wants to, the same amount.

Well Goodnight. Love to you and all – Yours Lovingly
John –



Camp Edison

Chelmsford - Oct. 24. '02

My darling Mother.

This is Friday night, just one week before we shall break camp. The weather is getting pretty bad now, having three bad days in one week and with so large a party one idle day means quite a little. The crowd shall leave Sudbury one week from tomorrow night so Ed will be home in about 10 days. I shall have to stay over for a few days to settle up matters, and perhaps make a few detailed surveys of mining properties.

I was going to write you last Sunday but finding that Ed had already started a letter to you I thought I would wait until the middle of the week. I am surprised to know that Ed has not written you before as I thought he had written several times. We had quite a talk the other day about home matters and from his point of view it seems to me Ed is right in many ways. I hope all points can be settled up

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[X104LBA], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, October 24th, 1902

Title
[X104LBA], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, October 24th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- St Paul's School
- Harkness, Edward Stephen
- Coit, Henry Augustus
- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Edison, Edith Clarissa
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1902-10-24

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Labor
- Ore exploration and mining

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Camp Edison

Chelmsford - Oct. 24, '02

My darling Mother:

This is Friday night, just one week before we shall break camp. The weather is getting pretty bad now, having three bad days in one week and with so large a party one idle day means quite a little. The crowd shall leave Sudbury one week from tomorrow night so Ed will be home in about 10 days. I shall have to stay over for a few days to settle up matters, and perhaps make a few detailed surveys of mining properties.

I was going to write you last Sunday but finding that Ed had already started a letter to you I thought I would wait until the middle of the week. I am surprised to know that Ed has not written you before as I thought he had written several times. We had quite a talk the other day about home matters and from his point of view it seems to me Ed is right in many ways. I hope all points can be settled up soon and all be right with each other.

From our latest papers I see that the coal strike is over. I suppose there is great rejoicing all over the States. It was certainly becoming a very serious matter. It was lucky for you that you had gas in the house. Mina was quite fortunate too. The strike did not trouble the people up here at all, as they burn wood almost entirely. We ourselves have abundance of wood & never think of coal.

I have not been in the spirit of writing for a long time. Somehow it is very hard for me to write. I love to get letters but answering them is quite a different matter, but I guess most every-one is that way. There is one notable exception to this in our crowd. One fellow does nothing else, outside of working time, but write letters. He is a wonder. I owe a letter to Ed Harkness. Edith and I don't know how many more-

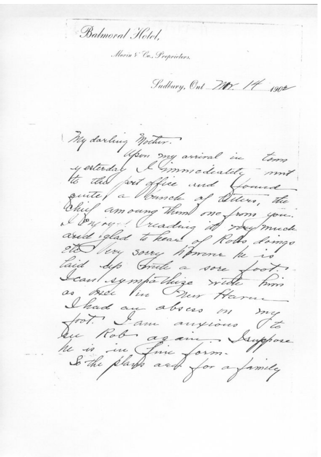
I had a reply to my letter to Dr. Coit in regard to our subscription to the Memorial fund. They asked how we wished it recorded. I am going to have it put in your name if there is no objection. The Coits wrote me very nice letters thanking us for our donation. I am glad we sent some and only wish it could be more. $75 however is quite a sum.

This has been a rainy day and we could do no work, that is the Swede men- I went out to examine the country carrying a rifle with me with the hope of seeing a moose or deer but saw neither. The other day I was out and saw a bull moose but had only a pistol. I would like to get a pair of horns of some kind.

Well, Darling, I must close. Good-night- Love to you and all-

Yours very lovingly-

John-



Balmoral Hotel,
Morin & Co., Proprietors.

Sudbury, Ont Nov. 14 1902

My darling Mother.

Upon my arrival in town yesterday I immediately went to the post office and found quite a bunch of letters, the chief amoung them one from you. I enjoyed reading it very much and glad to hear of Robs doings etc. Very sorry however he is laid up with a sore foot. I can sympathize with him as once in New Haven I had an absess on my foot. I am anxious to see Rob again. I suppose he is in fine form. So the plans are for a family

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[X104LBB], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, November 14th, 1902

Title
[X104LBB], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, November 14th, 1902

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Miller, Robert Anderson

Date
1902-11-14

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
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Document ID
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Balmoral Hotel,

Morin & Co., Proprietors.

Sudbury, Ont Nov. 14 1902

My darling Mother.

Upon my arrival in town yesterday I immediately went to the post office and found quite a bunch of letters, the chief among them one from you. I enjoyed reading it very much and glad to hear of Rob's doings etc. Very sorry however he is laid up with a sore foot. I can sympathize with him as once in New Haven I had an abscess on my foot. I am anxious to see Rob again. I suppose he is in fine form.

So the Slapps are for a family

gathering on Thanksgiving. Well I think that will be fine and I guess my work here will hardly keep me that long. In fact I am nearly finished now.

My last trip was to examine a certain property some 26 miles from here. We had to drive out in a wagon with our supplies. We had just had two days of rain and the creeks were so high that they floated the corduroy and at the first stream our team went through. Had a great time with them but finally managed to get them out. Had to turn back & occupy a nearer camp for two days.

Had a good time & grub

Balmoral Hotel,

Morin & Co., Proprietors.

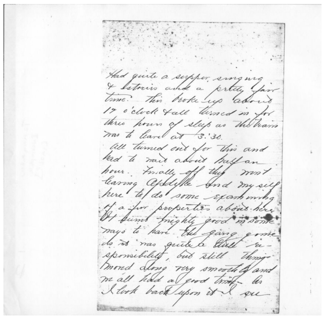
Sudbury, Ont 190

While away as Ranger my guide is a fine cook. Had partridge and rabbit for game.

On the way home yesterday it was raining most of the time and sleet had frozen on the trees so much that the branches hung down over the road. We had to duck & dodge & shove these away all the way in. It was pretty bad I can tell you. I guess we have seen the End of good weather.

There is not much news outside of this so I guess I will close. Ed I suppose is with you or soon will be. With oceans of love to you & all I am

Yours very lovingly John.



Had quite a supper, singing
& stories and a pretty fair
time. This broke up about
12 o'clock & all turned in for
three hours of sleep as the train
was to leave at 3:30.
All turned out for this and
had to wait about half an
hour. Finally off they went
leaving Opdyke and myself
here to do some examining
of a few properties about here.
It seems mighty good in some
ways to have the gang gone
as it was quite a little re-
sponsibility, but still things
moved along very smoothly and
we all had a good time. As
I look back upon it I see

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[X104LBC], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, 1902

Title
[X104LBC], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, 1902

Editor's Notes
Supplied year

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Miller, Ira Mandeville
- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Miller, Louise Igoe (Mrs Robert A.)
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Opdyke, Claude Heft

Date
1902-00-00

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
X104L-F

Document ID
X104LBC

URL
https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/document/X104LBC

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Timestamp
1 January 1902

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Had quite a supper, singing
& stories and a pretty fair
time. This broke up about
12 o'clock & all turned in for
three hours of sleep as the train
was to leave at 3:30.
All turned out for this and
had to wait about half an
hour. Finally off they went
leaving Opdyke and myself
here to do some examining
of a few properties about here.
It seems mighty good in some
ways to have the gang gone
as it was quite a little responsibility, but still things
moved along very smoothly and
we all had a good time. As
I look back upon it I see

where things might have been better, where perhaps I was a little too strict or severe but still I did what I thought was for the best and I guess that is all that can be expected. Ed seems to think the fellows all had a good time and were satisfied with their treatment. I hope so any way.

I am staying up here a little longer to look over some mining properties. Shall probably be here for one or two weeks, then for home.

Ed went around via New York and intends spending a week or so with Maria before going home. It was quite a surprise to me to hear that he was going to do this as he had been saying he was very anxious to get home the first week in November any way. I might have had him stay with me instead of Opdyke.

So Rob is at home. It must seem mighty good to have him around again and I guess he enjoys it immensely. Poor Louise must feel pretty lonesome down there. How long will Rob be up in the States and is it a settled fact that all the family are to be together

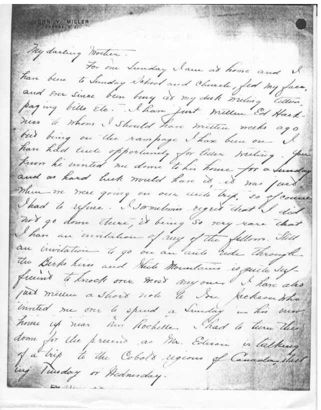
Thanksgiving?

I have heard nothing from Mina for two or three weeks and so I was much surprised to hear of Robs arrival in Akron. I don't know what is the matter with Mina. I must write her a note tonight and find out.

Well, Darling, I must close. Give my love to each and everyone, at Oak Place and at Ira's. With much love to yourself I am

Your affectionate son.

John.



JOHN V. MILLER
ORANGE, N.J.

My darling Mother.

For one Sunday I am at home and I have been to Sunday School and Church, fed my face, and ever since been busy at my desk writing letters, paying bills etc. I have just written Ed Harkness to whom I should have written weeks ago but being on the rampage I have been on I have had little opportunity for letter writing. You know he invited me down to his house for a Sunday and as hard luck would have it, it was just when we were going on our auto trip, so of course I had to refuse. I sometimes regret that I did not go down there, it being so very rare that I have an invitation of any of the fellows. Still an invitation to go on an auto ride through the Berkshires and White Mountains is quite sufficient to knock over most anyone. I have also just written a short note to Joe Jackson who invited me over to spend a Sunday in his new house up near New Rochelle. I had to turn this down for the present as Mr. Edison is talking of a trip to the Cobalt regions of Canada, starting Tuesday or Wednesday.

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[X104LBD], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 10th, 1905

Title
[X104LBD], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 10th, 1905

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Chautauqua Institution
- Harkness, Edward Stephen
- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1905-09-10

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Ore exploration and mining

Folder ID
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Document ID
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Timestamp
10 September 1905

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JOHN V. MILLER
ORANGE, N. J.

My darling Mother.

For one Sunday I am at home and I have been to Sunday School and Church, fed my face, and ever since been busy at my desk writing letters, paying bills Etc. I have just written Ed Harkness to whom I should have written weeks ago but being on the rampage I have been on I have had little opportunity for letter writing. You know he invited me down to his house for a Sunday and as hard luck would have it, it was just when we were going on our auto trip, so of course I had to refuse. I sometimes regret that I did not go down there, it being so very rare that I have an invitation of any of the fellows. Still an invitation to go on an auto ride through the Berkshires and White Mountains is quite sufficient to knock over most anyone. I have also just written a short note to Doc Jackson who invited me over to spend a Sunday in his new house up near New Rochelle. I had to turn this down for the present as Mr. Edison is talking of a trip to the Cobalt regions of Canada, starting Tuesday or Wednesday.

JOHN V. MILLER
ORANGE, N. J.

I suppose Grace has not finished yet telling you of the wonders of our trip. She is a dandy to chase off just when we were comming home. She left Tuesday & we came back Wednesday night. We had lots more trouble this time, the steering wheel casting broke at Sharon and at Hudson, N.Y. another ball bearing went bad. You know on this last trip we went in search of some slate which Mr. Edison sampled on the previous run. Well when he came up into the region he could not definitely locate the spot so we had to keep on going & went as far as Pittsfield. Then we turned S.W. and came back to Hudson where Mr Edison left us and Charles, Howe and myself had to get the auto repaired & come home. We made 125 miles the last day all but 18 miles of which we made from 1:30 to 10:00 P.M. Had Elegant roads through Tuxedo etc to Newburgh N.Y.

I hope Darling you are well, now Mame says you have not been feeling just right. You must have things on the table that you like and can eat. I hope you can soon come on here and what I wish more is that you and Mame could go down South about November and spend

JOHN V. MILLER
ORANGE, N. J.

the Entire winter down there. You can't stand the cold weather very well so we shall have to get up some scheme so you can stop it.

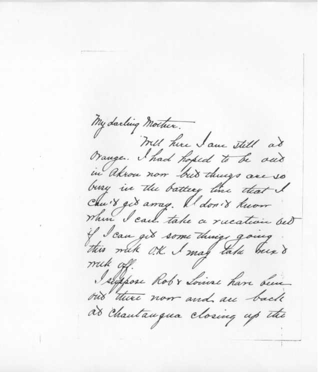
Mame says you Enjoyed Chautauqua very much. I am glad to hear that and know you had a good time. No one yet has told me who were out there and what improvements have been made. I must go for Mina.

Well I must close. With oceans of love to you and all I remain

Your loving son,
John.

Sept, 10/05

P.S. I Enclose a check for Mame.



My darling Mother.

Well here I am still at Orange. I had hoped to be out in Akron now but things are so busy in the battery line that I can't get away. I don't know when I can take a vacation but if I can get some things going this week O.K. I may take next week off.

I suppose Rob & Louise have been out there now and are back at Chautauqua closing up the

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[X104LBE], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 1909

Title
[X104LBE], Letter from John Vincent Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, September 1909

Editor's Notes
Supplied year and month

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Chautauqua Institution
- Glenmont
- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Ira Mandeville
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Miller, Louise Igoe (Mrs Robert A.)
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1909-09-00

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Electric battery

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Timestamp
1 September 1909

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My darling Mother.

Well here I am still at Orange. I had hoped to be out in Akron now but things are so busy in the battery line that I can't get away. I don't know when I can take a vacation but if I can get some things going this week O.K. I may take next week off.

I suppose Rob & Louise have been out there now and are back at Chautauqua closing up the house. I want to be here part of the time they are here at least and of course I want to see the great Fulton-Hudson celebration.

The battery is booming along in good shape & although we are ready for the originally planned output we have to again enlarge somewhat for material to Germany.

Ira made me quite a visit & it is lucky he came when he did as the place is running over with people now. I hope Ira makes a go of his enterprise & every thing will be O.K. with him.

As I have been rushing at the Lake most of the time I have not much to tell you. Had a good time however Labor Day & the Sunday before. Went with Charles to Long Beach Sunday & then spent Monday at Glenmont, playing tennis, resting etc. Mina is more than building over. Everything will be fine I think and you will have a dandy place in the North room when you come on. All are well at the house but Mina is pretty well tuckered out. She ought to break away for a week.

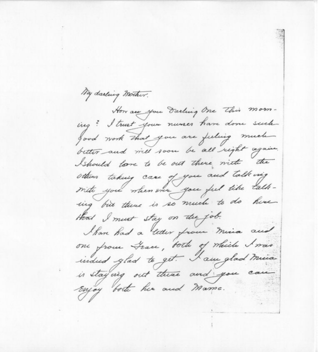
I have just come in from making a call on Josephine Boyd who is on from St Louis for a month. She reports Dave as fine & her house progressing beautifully.

Well, Darling, I hope you are well [redacted] & having good times. Give my love to all & keep a big bunch for yourself.

Very lovingly

John.

Sept. 14th.



My darling Mother.

How are you Darling One this morning? I trust your nurses have done such good work that you are feeling much better and will soon be all right again. I should love to be out there with the others taking care of you and talking with you whenever you feel like talking but there is so much to do here that I must stay on the job.

I have had a letter from Mina and one from Grace, both of which I was indeed glad to get. I am glad Mina is staying out there and you can enjoy both her and Mame.

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[X104LBF] Letter, 1911-1912

Title
[X104LBF] Letter, 1911-1912

Author
Miller, John Vincent

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Edison, Madeleine
- Edison, Edith Clarissa
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Miller, Louise Igoe (Mrs Robert A.)
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Potter, Frank Allen
- Edison, Simeon Ogden
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1911-1912

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Expositions, demonstrations, lectures

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My darling Mother.

How are you Darling One this morning? I trust your nurses have done such good work that you are feeling much better and will soon be all right again. I should love to be out there with the others taking care of you and talking with you whenever you feel like talking but there is so much to do here that I must stay on the job.

I have had a letter from Mina and one from Grace, both of which I was indeed glad to get. I am glad Mina is staying out there and you can enjoy both her and Mame.

I was at the house last evening for dinner. Madeleine had a headache but was getting over it when I left. She and her father had attended in the afternoon the opening of the Electrical Show. Madeleine had a good time. Although the house seems very much deserted with Mina and Mr. Edison both gone, still every thing seems to be in pretty good shape & Madeleine & Theodore are well.

I also stopped to see Edith for a few minutes. Her Frankie is in the West for a few days. She is nursing her father who has a little extra trouble with his knee. Edith is fine & cheerful same as usual.

Also I called up Louise and found

they were all well. She is looking for different apartments. She seems to be satisfied with her present quarters but all our talk has influenced her to change if possible.

Will you remind Mame to let me know about this bunch of papers. If I don't hear from her in a few days I shall have to take another room or dress out in the hall.

With lots & lots of love and best wishes to you, love to all the others, I will say au revoir

Affectionately,
John.

Mina Hope you love me still in spite of any remark I might have made. I do not think we should let little things upset us. N'est'pas.